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AGAWAM Advertiser News

50¢

Volume XVII Number 14

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

April 7, 1994

Keeping The World's Time When We Spring Ahead

by Peggy Shoemaker
Advertiser News Feature Writer

Pat Kitchen has five clocks showing the time in cities around the world on the wall of her shop, **Mail Boxes Etc.** at 417 Springfield Street, Agawam.

On Saturday night, April 2nd, when everyone moved clocks forward by one hour to accommodate Daylight Savings Time, Pat changed the hands on her clocks to adjust to time in various cities.

The clocks are large with black hands and white faces, framed in red with red and white plaques below them with the names of Tokyo, London, Agawam, San Francisco, and Moscow. The idea for the display evolved from the business, Pat said. "We ship and fax internationally." A customer can just look up and see the present time in any of these cities.

Pat and her husband, Ron, bought the franchise for **Mail Boxes Inc.** about 4½ years ago and created the clock display three years ago. Pat changed the time on the clocks last Saturday night, she said. The San Francisco clock moved ahead one hour to maintain the three hour difference between Eastern Daylight Savings Time and Pacific time. When it is 3:00 p.m. in Agawam, it is noon in San Francisco, 5:00 a.m. in Tokyo, 9:00 p.m. in London, and 11:00 p.m. in Moscow, the clocks indicated.

There is another clock within sight. It was the Persian Gulf clock. During the Persian Gulf War, the clock had a yellow border and name plate. It told Persian Gulf time for the interest of customers. The yellow has since been discarded and it is another clock with local time.

To verify the times on her clocks, Mrs. Kitchen calls the international operator. "Customers always ask about the clocks," she said. "They are a constant conversation piece."



PAT KITCHEN, owner and operator of **Mail Boxes Etc.**, on Springfield Street, Agawam, uses her five clocks to tell the time around the world. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

SHARE Begins At St. John's Church



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH is the site for the April 23rd **SHARE** (Self Help And Resource Exchange). Share is open to everyone. If you eat, you qualify. Anyone can participate in **SHARE** by exchanging 13 hours and pledging two hours of service to the community for each food package desired. Most of the foods in the package are basic, whole foods. For more information, call St. John's Church. From left - Reverend Leonard Cowan from St. David's Church, Jim Lemarier, Bev Boudreau, Judy Shrader, and Reverend Richard Meehan, pastor of St. John's. **RELATED PHOTO IN CHURCH NEWS.** Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Industrial Zone Passes First Test Before Council

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

After a lengthy and sometimes heated discussion, the council voted to accept the first reading of an ordinance to amend the town's zoning code to require 100 feet of frontage on building lots in the Industrial B zone.

Proposed by the Planning Board to correct what former Building Inspector Joseph Conte said was a misprint in the town's zoning code, the ordinance is aimed at the Industrial B parcel located between Silver and Suffield Streets, Shoemaker Lane, as well as a parcel of land along Garden Street.

Conte told the council that when the zoning code was reviewed and amended in 1988, the committee changed the Industrial A zoning to require 100 feet of frontage and intended the same requirement for the Industrial B zone.

It Was A Typing Error

Conte said a secretary neglected to insert the necessary language in the code for the Industrial B zone when typing the zoning changes.

SEE INDUSTRIAL ZONE - Page 2...

INDUSTRIAL ZONE - from Page 1...

Without a specific frontage requirement in the code for Industrial B zoning, state law allows owners to build on property with only 20 feet of frontage.

Planning Board member Frank Lawlor recommended passage of the amendment as a "matter of public safety." Lawlor said emergency personnel could have trouble gaining access to parcels with a narrow driveway leading to larger tracts of land.

Both the Police and Fire Departments have sent letters to the council in support of the proposal, according to Lawlor.

Councilors Walter Balboni and Gary Suffriti raised concerns over the effect the zoning change would have on the approximately 20 property owners and large parcels of land that do not meet the frontage requirement (100 feet).

Lawlor said it was inevitable that some people are affected whenever a zone change occurs. He asked the council to consider the issue of public safety and to make their decision based on the good of the community as a whole.

Balboni and Suffriti asked the council to hold off consideration of the amendment until councilors had an opportunity to digest the information they received at the meeting about the properties that would be affected by the zoning change.

Suffriti complained that he had requested information on the number and location of the properties that do not meet the 100 foot frontage requirement at the council's March 7th meeting. He said that as he predicted, this information would not be received until the night of the vote on the zone change (April 4th).

Notify Property Owners

Suffriti asked that the town notify the property owners affected by the change as a matter of courtesy, even though the town is not required to do so.

Councilor Robert Danie supported Suffriti's request. He added that he would oppose a second and third reading (required by two-thirds majority) at the next council meeting (as suggested by Balboni) in order to give councilors enough time to digest the information provided by the Planning Department.

Check our classifieds

Clip & Save These Phone Numbers Of Your Elected Members Of Town Council

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Agawam, MA 01001-1825
Telephone (413) 786-0400
Extension 233
Fax 786-2799

1994 CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

James D. Taylor, President
786-0300
P.O. Box 2
Feeding Hills, MA 01030-0002

David Skolnick
786-1115
P.O. Box 482
Agawam, MA 01001-0482

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Feeding Hills, MA 01030-2133

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9 Wagon Wheel Drive
Feeding Hills, MA 01030-1536

Geroge Bitzas, Vice Pres.
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33 Fernwood Drive
Agawam, MA 01001-3011

Edward A. Caba
786-2479
198 Walnut Street
Agawam, MA 01001-1427

Jill P. Simpson
786-0053
154 Elmar Drive
Feeding Hills, MA 01030-2452

Gary E. Suffriti
786-5516
235 Valley Brook Road
Feeding Hills, MA 01030-1106

Walter A. Balboni
786-2438
188 Walnut Street
Agawam, MA 01001-1418

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Town Council asked us to print the name, address, and phone number of each council member the first of every month. Please clip & save.

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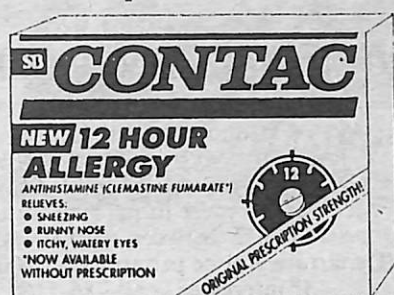
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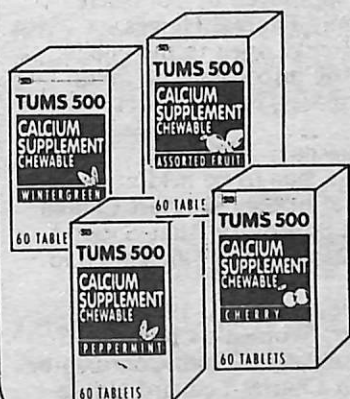


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Letters To The Editor

Council Must Curb Developing Of Feeding Hills Center

To The Editor:

I would like to address the first part of this letter to our town councilors.

You must act now to curb the development of Feeding Hills Center. Please, don't say that because it is zoned for business, there is nothing you can do about it. If that is your stumbling block, then you must do something to remove that block.

There are several reasons for doing this, the most important being the traffic congestion further development would cause. More traffic causes problems not only for the residents of Feeding Hills, but also for the students who attend Granger School and Agawam Junior High.

Installing more traffic lights does not solve the problem because there are too many drivers who don't pay attention to the lights. In a long line of traffic, there is always one driver who needs to get through the light and won't wait for the next cycle. Don't wait for a tragedy to happen before you accept the fact that these problems are real.

And, don't wait for the completion of Route 57 to solve the traffic problems, because once Phase I is open, traffic will only be shifted from one side of the Center to another. And when and if Phase II is ever completed and open, it will only eliminate some of the commuter traffic. There will still be enough cars and delivery trucks going to Stop and Shop, fast-food restaurants, and any other major businesses that might develop in Feeding Hills Center to cause a major accident.

I am asking for you to show that you care about the children who attend our schools—they are Agawam's future. Place a moratorium on development in this area and take that time to examine the zoning laws. Make any necessary changes to these laws so that the students in these schools will be protected from an onslaught of fast-food restaurants and national chain stores that draw tremendous business and increase traffic.

We teach our children that prevention is the best medicine. We must begin to practice this old adage to protect our children and our future. If you want to allow for business development, do it in an area where our children won't be hurt by it.

I am addressing the second part of this letter to concerned citizens and parents of Granger School children and Junior High students. Please contact the council members and express your concerns about this issue. Let them know that you do not want Springfield Street to end up like Riverdale Road. They have the power to stop development now before it is too late.

If the majority remains silent, the minority will win and when McDonald's finally does build in Feeding Hills, it won't matter whether or not the building blends in with the "colonial" ambience of Feeding Hills. There will no longer be any ambience other than one of confusion, congestion, and pollution.

Sincerely,
Kathleen A. Mouneimneh
Feeding Hills

Red Sox Fans Beware: Dave Gallerani Loves Yanks

To The Editor:

I have lived in Agawam a long time and am genuinely concerned with the well-being of all the people in this town. It is in this spirit that I must reveal the true nature of a fairly well-known person in town.

Dave Gallerani, who is a nice guy most of the year, turns into his Mr. Hyde persona every April. OK, Agawam, hold on to your hats ... Dave Gallerani is a dreaded YANKEE FAN! That's right, he worships those egomaniacs in pinstripes from the Bronx. He takes extreme pleasure when those wannabe baseball players beat (usually by cheating!) our own Red Sox.

Take heart, the baseball season finishes in October; and, when the Sox finish in front of those bums from the Bronx, Dave will go into mourning but will recover in November.

Dan Lacienski
268 South West Street
Feeding Hills

Jr. High PTO Seeks Volunteers For Student Book Fair In May

To The Editor:

The Agawam Junior High School is looking for volunteers to help at a book fair during the third week of May.

This book fair is not a fundraiser, but rather an opportunity for the students to purchase two books for the price of one. In addition, the company providing the books for this fair will donate \$100 worth of books to the school library.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to get a bargain on books, as well as adding books to the school library at no charge.

If you are able to volunteer any time between 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. during this week, please call Mr. Costanzi at the Junior High School (413-789-1400, ext. 460), or Donna Shibley, PTO president, at 786-3888.

Thank you,
Agawam Junior High School PTO

Jeanne Hoffman Big Hit At Phelps School Event

To The Editor:

In past years, Phelps School has had some sort of a get-together in February to help ward off the mid-winter blues. This year, it was decided to have a storytime with Jeanne Hoffman, and make-your-own-sundae night.

After two cancellations due to major snow storms, it finally took place Tuesday, March 29th, with 280 people in attendance. It was a tremendous success, and I couldn't have pulled it off without the wonderful help of the following people.

So a really big thank you, especially to Jeanne Hoffman, our story teller, Debby, the manager of Friendly's in Agawam, and all the terrific servers, Dave, Pat, Peg, & Dan Drewniak, Jan & Matt Zadel, Lynn Oakes, Leslie Young, Ellen Janik, Ann Macey, Jen McGuire, Sue Hamlin, Mr. & Mrs. P. Pereira, Gloria Oberheim, and Rob, Matt, and Marc Pereira (some neater than others!).

Thanks again.

Donna Pereira
Phelps School PTO President

Bill Chiba Thanked By Fly Fishermen Asso. President

To The Editor:

I am writing this letter to the AAN in order to thank Bill Chiba for a write-up in one of his columns. It truly gave Mr. Berkowitz and Mr. Tabor the credit they both richly deserve for their personal contributions in the fields of fly tying as well as fly fishing.

I hope some day to meet Mr. Chiba and shake his hand personally.

Thanks again,
Manuel R. DaSilva, Jr.
President, Western Mass. Fly Fishermen

Miss Agawam Pageant Is A Fair, Top-Notch Event

To The Editor:

In regards to the April 5th Miss Agawam pageant, I would like to take this opportunity to commend Mrs. Lori Andruss-Boyle for the excellent, fair, organized, and top-notch pageant that she holds for Agawam residents.

I would also like to thank her personally for the wonderful year last year's winners were afforded. I have to sympathize with Mrs. Boyle, however, for having to deal with the attitudes of a lot of the mothers who get involved with the competition.

It disgusts me the way that so many parents will only support the pageant if "so-and-so" isn't eligible to enter on any given year. It is also pathetic that so many of these mothers (let alone the children) feel so threatened by an innocent little eight year-old, who happens to hold the current overall title.

As the mother of two daughters who also compete in pageants and dance competitions, and as a professional dance teacher, you mothers have a lot to learn about what you're teaching ethics and setting a good example? At our studio, the children are taught to do the best they can do, and more importantly, to enjoy what they are doing. It's not important to be the "winner" every time!

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sponsored By COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

Monday, April 11th

Annual "Mystery Ride" of the Catholic Women's Club of Agawam Members to meet in parking lot of St. John's Church between 6:30 & 6:45 p.m. (Departure will be promptly at 7:00 p.m.) If interested, call 786-5160

Wednesday, April 13th &
Thursday, April 14th

Three support groups for bereaved people; sponsored by Forastiere Family Funeral Homes Both are free & open to the public; for specific info regarding times and places, call 733-5311

Tuesday, April 19th

Rummage Sale to be held at the Parish Center of Sacred Heart Church (sponsored by Rosary Altar Society) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., & 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, April 19th

Agawam Jr. Women's Club to host Connie Hutton, Ag. Health Coordinator At Captain Charles Leonard House 7:30 p.m. Call 786-9971 for more information

Saturday, April 23rd

Annual Car Wash by Cub Scout Pack 78 from F.H. Congregational Church To be held in parking lot of Partner's Restaurant, 485 Spfld. St. 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



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LETTERS - from Page 4...

I hope that by writing this letter, some of you will take a good look at yourselves and change your attitudes. If not, then you really don't belong in the competition world! Open your eyes, and look what you're doing to your children.

Sincerely,
Cynthia M. Williams
Owner/Director, Cindy's School of Dance

Beautification Committee Seeking Help From Town

To The Editor:

Despite the weather, spring is here! The Agawam Beautification Committee is seeking assistance this year with its beautification efforts.

In cooperation with the Agawam Recreation Department, an **Adopt-A-Planting Program** is being organized. The Beautification Committee is presently responsible for the planting of a number of planters throughout the town.

The Beautification Committee, which consists of four active members, is seeking the assistance of local businesses and civic organizations to ensure that the planters are maintained throughout the growing season. By adopting a planter, an organization will be identified by a plaque in the planter itself and in the local newspaper. Responsibilities will include weeding, removal of litter, and infrequently watering.

Every year the Beautification Committee is recognized for its efforts to make Agawam more beautiful. Last year, the Beautification Committee joined forces with the West Springfield Garden Club to undertake the "**Morgan/Sullivan Bridge**" project. By instituting the Adopt-A-Planting Program, the Beautification Committee hopes to increase the number of planters. New locations have already been identified.

Those interested in volunteering to participate in the **Adopt-A-Planting Program** should contact Nancy Pryce in the Agawam Parks and Recreation Department by calling 786-0400, ext. 456.

Sincerely,
Zoafia Demko, Chairman
Agawam Beautification Committee

Agawam & West Side People Thanked For CROP Walk

To The Editor:

I would like to thank the people of Agawam and West Springfield who took part in the CROP Walk last fall. Over \$9,000 was raised for the CROP Walk.

On Valentine's Day, the CROP Walk Committee gave the West Springfield Open Pantry a check for \$2,294.25.

A special thanks to *The Agawam Advertiser News* and all the people who walked or helped put together the Walk.

This year, the CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, October 23rd. See you there.

Sincerely,
The Agawam/WestSpringfield
CROP-Walk Committee

Street Hockey Teens Show No Respect For Neighbors

To The Editor:

You, Mrs. Bernard, must have a wardrobe of rose-colored glasses! How wonderful that you have well-behaved and considerate youth in your neighborhood, and that you raised five successful adults.

I dare say it's been a few years since you were actively raising children. Get real!!! Times have changed!!! Politeness, courtesy, and respect are the exception in our society, not the rule.

For your further information, this never was a senior or "prominent" citizen issue. My husband and I made the complaint to the police that started this controversy. We are neither senior or "prominent" citizens.

The complaint was made because we and our neighbors became tired of "running the gauntlet"; i.e., raised threatening hockey sticks, boys jumping in front of cars and daring you to hit them, taunts, vulgarity and use of profanity, and a general refusal to yield the right-of-way.

Unfortunately, when parents are confronted with the problem, most either laugh or display complete apathy. The object of our initial complaint was not to ban sports from the streets of Agawam, but to resolve the problem to the

satisfaction of both sides.

In conclusion, my husband and I have lived in four different states over the last 20 years and have never seen such blatant disrespect as shown by these youths.

Sincerely,
Alison and Les Fleury
Peros Drive
Agawam

Feeding Hills Resident Urges Observance Of "Earth Day"

To The Editor:

One sure sign of spring in our region is heralded by the arrival of NYNEX phone books. And as part of spring clean-up, people wonder what to do with their old phone books. Conveniently this year, Agawam and Feeding Hills residents can drop those old yellow pages into their blue recycling bins.

The annual Earth Day Exhibit is coming up soon on April 17th at the Springfield Science Museum. Hopefully, information will be available to interested Agawam residents about just where our phone books originate.

However we consider it, Earth Day can be a memorial to ignorance, a testament to the potential in our future, or simply a spectacle put on by a bunch of grass eaters. The possibilities of reinhabiting our shared inheritance as a contrast to a cynical world is perhaps the most dramatic message.

Whether one perceives Earth Day as about retailers and community reinvestment, mandating the use of recycled materials, or as seeing as many bluebirds around as inhabited colonial Agawam, the earth belongs to us only briefly. And ironically, when we do think it belongs to us (and we have the paperwork to prove it), the earth—including all the land in Agawam and Feeding Hills—then really belongs to our children.

Sincerely,
Damian Gormley
56 South Westfield Street
Feeding Hills

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Melconian Cites Pair Of Important Bills Now In Committee

Senator Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) announced her sponsorship of two very important bills which will be heard this week before the Joint Committee on Insurance, of which she is Chairwoman.

Senate Bill No. 651, relative to preventing the differential treatment in health care coverage of people inflicted with HIV/AIDS, and Senate Bill No. 652, relative to providing insurance coverage for off-label uses of prescription drugs necessary for the treatment of HIV/AIDS, were filed by Senator Melconian for the 1994 legislative session.

"These two bills are a long time coming. For too many years, individuals infected by this terrible virus have been denied health care coverage necessary to sustain their lives. It is now 1994 and there is no reason that these individuals should be treated any differently from those people suffering from any other catastrophic illness currently covered by health insurance providers," the Senator emphatically stated.

S.651 was drafted as a result of a case, referred to as the **McGann** case, heard before the United States Supreme Court. The **McGann** case involved an employee of a self-insured company in Texas, who, prior to diagnosis, was covered for all major medical expenses up to \$1 million.

Once diagnosed, the company immediately reduced its health care plan for coverage for AIDS to \$5,000, while not limiting any other catastrophic illnesses. In its decision, the Court let stand a lower court ruling which stated that a self-insured employer, in the absence of specific state legislation to the contrary, could discriminate against people simply on the basis of their HIV status and without actuarial justification.

Since this case, Congress passed the American Disabilities Act, which while somewhat relieving people with AIDS from discrimination, it leaves intact all state insurance laws for the individual state to provide adequate protection.

"The bill which I sponsored, S.651, is fair to both the insured and insurer. It will prohibit insurers from discriminating and treating people with HIV differently from other catastrophic illnesses in insurance coverage and payment systems but will allow insurers to follow their standard risk management and actuarial practices," said Senator Melconian.

S.652, the other bill sponsored by the Senator, will require reimbursement for "off-label" uses of prescription drugs needed by people living with HIV/AIDS. In 1992, the Legislature passed a similar bill into law for people with cancer.

"Off-label" prescription drugs are those drugs which are approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) but only for the particular use that the company that manufactures the drug has requested approval for, even though studies published in major medical journals show that the drug is useful for other purposes.

Doctors are allowed to prescribe these medications, but all too often, insurance carriers do not reimburse for them because the drug is not being used for exactly what the FDA approved usage is.

"These drugs have been proven to be safe and effective for treating AIDS related infections by respected medical authorities. To deny people access and reimbursement for medication which can strengthen their immune system is inhumane. It is important to note that S.652 does not require reimbursement for drugs which are experimental nor for those drugs which safety has not been determined by the FDA," stated Senator Melconian.

Melconian intends to make these two bills a priority this legislative session and will work to assure their enactment into law.

Walsh Endorses Plan To Aid Towns With Snow Removal Debt

Due to the record-setting snowfall this winter, mounting pressures on municipal budgets have local officials trying to dig out of snow removal debt. To aid cities and towns in paying the bills, State Representative Michael P. Walsh (D-Agawam) has endorsed a special spending plan to provide \$15 million in statewide storm relief.

"While for the general public the headaches from the major snowstorms we had this season are 'presumably' over, for municipal budget officials the problems are just beginning. Because even the most conservative budgeters could not have forecast such a terrible winter, only Mother Nature can be blamed for the budget troubles in which many communities now find themselves," said Rep. Walsh.

The House also acted in the same spending plan to provide \$30.7 million in additional money to cover the state's increased cost for snow plowing and removal on state highways and properties. Walsh says this should be good news to the hundreds of private contractors who comprise the state's storm response teams.

"There are many men and women who spent their own money, used their own resources, and gave us many hours of their lives to keep our roadways clear and safe this past winter. I hope my action to swiftly appropriate the monies necessary to reimburse them as soon as possible serve as a 'thank you' to them for their dedicated efforts under difficult conditions this winter," commented Walsh.

Council Postpones Executive Session On Former Sanitarian

An executive session of Town Council scheduled for this past Monday night to discuss the pending lawsuit against the town filed by Casimer Tryba was postponed to the next council meeting because Town Solicitor Thomas Locke was not able to attend.

Council President James D. Taylor refused to publicly discuss the purpose of the scheduled closed door session while the case is still pending in court.

Tryba, who was a longtime sanitarian for the town, filed a suit after being dismissed from the Health Department in July 1992 when the council cut the Health Department budget.

The lack of funds in the Health Department left no money to fund Tryba's position and he was dismissed by Mayor Christopher C. Johnson.

The vote to cut the Health Department budget and eventual dismissal of Tryba touched off a bitter controversy on the council that lasted for all of the summer and into the fall months.

Kathy Cassanelli

Public Hearing On Open Space/Rec Plan Slated For April 14th

On April 14th, the Agawam Conservation Commission and an Open Space and Recreation Task Force will hold a public meeting to discuss the update of the Town's 1986 *Open Space and Recreation Plan*.

An *Open Space and Recreation Plan* allows a community to address its appearance, lifestyle of its residents, condition of its natural resources, as well as goals for present and future recreational resources.

Once approved, the *Open Space and Recreation Plan* enables a community to be eligible to apply for Self-Help, Urban Self-Help, Land and Water Conservation Funds, and other grant programs administered by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services.

During 1993, two of the priority projects contained in the 1986 *Plan* became realities. Both the purchase of Tuckahoe Turf Farm and the Agawam Country Club were contained within the **Five Year Plan**, the meat of the *Open Space and Recreation Plan*. The applicability of the goals contained in the 1986 *Plan* to current real estate options, illustrates the foresight of the early plan.

On April 14th, the Conservation Commission and Open Space and Recreation Task Force will accept input from the public regarding the goals and objectives of the updated *Plan*. The goals and objectives of the 1986 *Plan* were as follows:

A. Basic Goal: To provide the highest level of quality of life for all the community's citizens.

1. Specific Goals:

a. To provide imaginative and complete facilities for outdoor recreation to serve all residents.

1. To develop to the fullest potential, all school playground and play field sites and develop appropriate coordination of school and recreation needs to provide year-round service.

2. To acquire sites not already available for recreational programs (particularly in the more urban areas with existing dense population and other areas with rapidly growing populations).

3. To develop existing and abandoned parks and newly acquired sites to their fullest use for all age groups.

4. To seek opportunities to acquire space for passive recreation and open space, especially to provide buffer zones and green belts, and to protect scenic vistas.

B. To actively pursue Farmland Preservation in the Town of Agawam.

All interested individuals and organizations are strongly recommended to attend the April 14th meeting. For additional information, please contact the Agawam Office of Planning and Community Development at 786-0400, ext. 283.

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MARY MATTINA O'BRIEN

Agawam Obituaries

Arlene H. Wells

Arlene H. (White) Wells, 95, of 886 Main Street, Agawam, a retired 12-year bookkeeper and stenographer at the former Truesdell Wholesale Dry Goods Co. in Springfield, died in a Northampton nursing home.

Born in Springfield, she moved to Agawam in 1945. Her husband, Harold E. Wells, died in 1963.

She leaves a nephew, Richard White of Chicopee, and two nieces, Norma Finch of Northampton and Carol Finch of Northboro.

A graveside service was conducted in Agawam Center Cemetery, and Agawam Funeral Home was in charge. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 57 Suffolk Street, Holyoke, MA 01040.

Roger E. Houle

Roger E. Houle, 71, of 15c Mansion Woods Drive, Agawam, a retired self-employed building contractor, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield. He maintained a second home in Cocoa Beach, Florida.

Born in Montreal, Quebec, he moved to Springfield in 1946. He lived in West Springfield for 20 years before moving to Agawam five years ago.

He was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, and a member of the Agawam Senior Center. He was a former member of the Elks Lodge in West Springfield and the Home Builders Association.

He leaves his wife, the former Theresa Quesnel; four sons, Dr. Alphonse T. of Wilbraham, Robert E. of Blandford, and Real L. and Roger H. of Springfield; seven brothers, Real, Rejean, Lionel, Lucien, Romeo, Robert, and Romeald of Quebec, Canada; three sisters, Juliette Roy, Theresa Denis, and Jean d'Arc Fournier of Quebec, and nine grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial Funeral Home and the church, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 20 Speen Street, Framingham, MA 01701-4688.

Glenna Toon

Glenna (Montgomery) Toon, 89, of 89 Woodside Drive, Agawam, and formerly of West Springfield and New Port Richey, Florida, died in a local nursing home.

She worked at Heinz Co. in Pennsylvania for several years.

She was born and schooled in Bakerstown, Pennsylvania, and moved to West Springfield in 1958. She lived there for 10 years before moving to Florida. She returned to this area in 1990.

She worshipped at the First Church of Christ in Springfield, and was a former member of the Community Congregational Church in New Port Richey.

Her husband, Arthur L. Toon, died in 1990.

She leaves a stepson, Edward Toon of Agawam; a stepdaughter, Doris E. Cotton of West Springfield; six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with burial at Hazardville Cemetery in Enfield. Memorial contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104, or any other charity.

Leonard A. Wright

Leonard A. Wright, 68, of Phoenix, Arizona, a retired welder, died April 3rd, 1994.

Born in Colrain, Massachusetts, and a resident of Greenfield for many years, he was a World War II Navy veteran.

He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline (Cote), formerly of Agawam; a daughter, Pamela Basile; four sons, Keith, Jeffery, Glen, and Dennis, all of Arizona; and sisters Louise R.C. David of Feeding Hills, and Vivian Diridoni of Greenbrae, California.

Funeral services were held at Chapel of the Chimes mortuary in Phoenix. Donations in his memory may be made to the charity of your choice.

Tax Refunds Can Pay Off Your Debts

Behind on a federal debt? If you are expecting a tax refund, part of all of your refund could be applied to reduce that debt.

You may be contacted by the IRS if money is withheld from your tax refund to pay your past due child and/or spousal support payments, or other federal obligations such as student loans. The IRS can identify the amount of the refund to be applied and the agencies that requested the refund offset. Contact the agencies involved in the offset to discuss discrepancies. The IRS cannot resolve them.

Spouses who do not have any federal debts or owe child and/or spousal support payments, and file a joint income tax return with a spouse who does, can be considered an "injured spouse." An injured spouse can file Form 8379, "Injured Spouse Claim and Allocation," to receive his or her share of the refund that would otherwise be used to pay the other spouse's debt. Form 8379 can be filed with the joint federal income tax return, or separately if already filed.

To be considered an injured spouse, you must (1) file a joint return, (2) have received income such as wages, interest, etc., (3) have made tax payments such as federal income tax withheld from wages or estimated tax payments, (4) report the income and tax payments on the joint return, and (5) have an overpayment, all or part of which could be applied against the past-due amount.

Refunds that involve community property states, in which all community property is subject to the debts of either spouse, must be divided according to state law. The entire joint refund is subject to offset, and an injured spouse claim cannot be accepted by the IRS.

Those who may qualify as an injured spouse can call the IRS at 1-800-829-3676 to get Form 8379.

You turn our pages for all the local news
ADVERTISER NEWS

LEGAL NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TOWN OF AGAWAM

The Town of Agawam is requesting proposals for the leasing of a portion of Tuckahoe Turf Farm for agricultural use. The Request for Proposals may be obtained at the Agawam Town Clerk's Office or the Office of Planning and Community Development, 36 Main Street, Agawam, Massachusetts from April 7th, 1994 until April 22nd, 1994.

All proposals must be submitted to the Agawam Mayor's Office before 12:00 p.m., April 25th, 1994 at which time the Non-Price Proposal will be opened.

The Tuckahoe Turf Farm Committee and the Mayor of Agawam will review the proposals and accept the proposal deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Agawam.

The Town of Agawam reserves the right to reject any proposal in whole or in any part and to accept any proposal or any item of any proposal or to negotiate non-price portions of the project if deemed in the best interest of the Town.

Published: April 7, 1994

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, April 14, 1994 at 7:30 PM, in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, at the Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability for Schnepf for property located on Kosciusko Avenue.

Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman

Agawam Conservation Commission

Published: April 7, 1994

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Be Careful - Hot Water Can Burn You!

Tap water and bathtub injuries have been a major cause of burn injuries for many years. While scald burns can happen to anyone, young children and the elderly comprise most of the 2,600 injuries annually received by hot water from home faucets. These burns can cause severe injury, scarring and disfigurement, and even death. The Agawam Fire Department wants the public to know how to prevent such burns.

The major cause of scalds in homes is a water heater set too high (140° - 150°F). Most adults will suffer a serious, third-degree burn if exposed to 150°F water for only TWO SECONDS. The sensitive skin of children burns much easier. To test the hot water in your home, use a candy or meat thermometer at each faucet. If the water is over 120°F, turn down your hot water heater. Besides avoiding scalds, this will also save energy and money.

If you have an electric water heater, ask the electric company if it will lower the temperature for you. If you are in an apartment, ask the maintenance department to help. If you adjust it yourself, turn off the current by switching off the circuit breaker or removing the fuse.

Electric heaters have two controls which need to be set. Remove the upper and lower access panels, pull aside the insulation over the thermostats, and use a screwdriver to turn the dials of

the controls. DO NOT TOUCH ANY OTHER AREA. Replace the insulation and panels. Turn on the current. Don't use hot water for two hours. Check the temperature the next morning.

For furnaces using fuel oil, contact your supplier to lower the temperature. This will not affect the heating capacity of the furnace.

Even after lowering hot water temperatures, it would be wise to take these precautions:

- Check bathwater for children with your elbow. The elbow is more sensitive to temperature changes.

- Never leave a child alone in a bathtub or sink.
- Place small children in the tub facing away from the faucets and never encourage the bathtub as a play area.

- Teach children to turn on the cold water first when using faucets.

- Install temperature regulators in showers, tubs, and faucets. Consult your plumber or hardware store for information.

- Know what to do for a scald burn. Cool the burn with water. Cover it with a clean cloth and seek medical attention. If the burn is serious, call the rescue squad at 911. Never put any ointments, greases, butter, or vaseline on burns. These can hold heat and make the burn worse.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

Ronald Dunn New Course Manager Of Agawam Country Club

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson and the Municipal Golf Commission are pleased to announce the selection of the new Course Manager at the Agawam Country Club.

The Town of Agawam received over 30 applicants who met the minimum qualifications for the position of Course Manager. A Screening and Interview Committee comprised of Mayor Johnson, Gary Shannon (Municipal Golf Commission member), Superintendent of Public Works John Stone, and Susan Rush (Personnel Officer) reviewed all applications and selected 10 semi-finalists.

The semi-finalists were interviewed by the Committee, and four finalists were chosen. The finalists were interviewed a second time, and the top candidate was selected. It was a very difficult decision since all the finalists offered excellent credentials.

After considerable review, the Committee is proud to announce its unanimous selection of Ronald D. Dunn as the new Course Manager of the Agawam Country Club. Dunn grew up in Massachusetts and presently resides in Lake Worth, Florida. He presently serves as Director of Golf/General Manager at Oak Ridge Country Club in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

In his present position, Dunn is responsible for the management of the entire operation of the course, including golf operations, food and beverage service, grounds maintenance, public relations, and personnel management. He has worked at Oak Ridge for the past 3½ years.

Dunn is a Class A P.G.A. Professional and is also a certified food service manager in the State of Florida. He has also successfully completed both P.G.A. business schools, taken course work in business administration at Boston College, and completed the T.I.P.S. alcohol abuse recognition program.

Prior to serving at Oak Ridge Country Club, he served as the Head Golf Professional at Pine Oaks (municipal) Golf Course in Ocala, Florida; Golf Professional at the John Prince Golf Center in Lake Worth, Florida; Golf Professional at the Admiral's Cove Club in Jupiter, Florida; and the Head Professional at Fairgreen Golf Course in New Smyrna Beach, Florida.

Dunn is in the process of relocating from Florida, and has assumed the duties of Course Manager as of April 6th.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, on 68 Main St., THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1994 at 7:00 P.M. o'clock, for all parties interested in the appeal of PAUL TROY, who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Sections 180-69 and 180-71, Paragraphs G5 and A of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the construction of a single family residence on a lot that was found to lie within the Flood Zone A at the premises identified as Lot 3 A, WARREN STREET.

By order of the Board of Appeals,
Ronald Hebert
Chairman

Published: April 7, 1994

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, on 68 Main St., THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1994 at 6:45 P.M. o'clock, for all parties interested in the appeal of PAUL TROY, who is seeking relief from Section 180-27 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the construction of a single family residence on a lot having less than the required frontage and area, at the premises identified as LOT 3 A, WARREN STREET.

By order of the Board of Appeals,
Ronald Hebert
Chairman

Published: April 7, 1994

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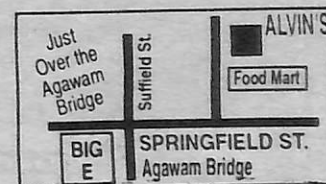
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Agawam To Receive Money For Cleanup Of Veterans' Graves

Towns comprising Western Hampden District have been targeted to receive funds for the cleaning and restoration of veterans' graves.

Available through the State Department of Veterans' Services Graves Project is \$217,000 set aside for this purpose, according to District Director Ruth Carr Bitzas.

Mrs. Bitzas, a state designated member of the committee, attended a meeting in Boston on March 23rd as the committee reviewed over 100 requests for funds, and is pleased to report the following amounts designated for our District:

Town of Agawam	\$4,300.00
Town of Southwick	\$490.00
Town of Granville	\$2,250.00
Town of Tolland	\$1,425.00
TOTAL	\$8,465.00

In Agawam, Mrs. Bitzas advised that \$1,250 will be targeted for both the Springfield Street Cemetery and the Agawam Center Cemetery and \$450 is designated for each of the smaller cemeteries containing the remains of veterans of the earlier wars.

Those cemeteries are Maple Grove Cemetery, South Westfield Cemeteries No. 1 and 2, and the

Cooper Street Cemetery.

The time frame for applications was quite short, limited to February 17th through March 18th. As a result of the article in the *Union News* on March 15th, the Veterans Services Office received many calls, one especially from the Town of Chester. They hadn't heard of the project and requested help. Mrs. Bitzas advised them to fax their request and she offered to mail their request with the District through overnight mail, due to the limited time frame. She is happy to report that the Town of Chester will receive \$2,700 to refurbish their graves.

Awards were based upon the amounts individual towns received previously in 1988 and the amounts requested. Smith Monuments of Westfield will be doing the work in Springfield Cemetery with the help of Mr. Alvin Kellogg, cemetery official, and Mr. Ray Orr, representing Agawam Cemetery, will assist Mr. Paul Galaska, Heritage Foundries for Center Cemetery.

Mrs. Bitzas and members of the Agawam Veterans Council will help designate graves to be cleaned and refurbished in the smaller cemeteries.

Fireman Retires



LONGTIME FIREMAN BEN MCCULLOUGH has retired after 32 years with the Agawam Fire Dept. A party in his honor will be held at Ferruccio's Banquet House, 1520 Main Street (across from Riverside Park) on May 21st at 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the Agawam Fire Dept. for \$20. Chicken or roast beef can be chosen. Ben (seated) is pictured with his former A-Group members - Ron Giordano, Lt. Gary Brown, and Marc Yacovone.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, on 68 Main Street, **THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1994 at 6:30 P.M.** o'clock for all parties interested in the appeal of

LEGAL NOTICE

MR. LUIGI CHIARELLA, who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-55, Paragraph C 13 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the creation of an impound yard for registered and unregistered vehicles at the premises identified as 271 SOUTH WESTFIELD STREET.

By order of the Board of Appeals,
Ronald Hebert
Chairman

Published: April 7, 1994

PLEASE REMEMBER that photographer Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Please call Jack at 789-0053. Thanks.

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Taxes 101: Working Students Learn Taxes

You're a full-time student with a part-time job. Now you may officially be a taxpayer! If you aren't familiar with how to pay taxes, here's a crash course in tax withholding for the working student and potential taxpayer.

Employers must withhold federal income tax, social security, and Medicare taxes from their employee's paychecks. The amount of income tax a worker pays, if any, depends on several things:

- * How much money he or she makes from wages, tips, investment income (e.g., interest on a savings account), or other income;
- * whether he or she received scholarships that may be partially or fully taxable; and...
- * whether a parent or guardian can claim the student as a dependent on his or her tax return.

Generally, students must pay income tax if either of the following applies:

- They have more than \$600 in total income that includes unearned and can be claimed as dependents; or...

- they earn more than \$3,700 in wages, tips, taxable scholarships, and other earned income, but no unearned income, and can be claimed as dependents.

Students who are 24 or older and earn \$2,350 or more in a year usually cannot be claimed as dependents on a parent's or guardian's return, and can claim an exemption for themselves on their own tax return if they have to file.

When they begin working, students fill out the Form W-4, *Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate*, to help their employer determine the amount of taxes to withhold from their paychecks. They should use the W-4 worksheet to figure out how many allowances they are entitled to.

Students may claim one allowance on their W-4

for themselves, if no one else can claim them as a dependent. This lessens the amount of income tax withheld from each paycheck. If a student chooses to claim zero allowances, their employer will withhold more.

Students may claim exemption from withholding on their W-4 if they got a refund of all taxes withheld for the previous year, and expect that all taxes withheld would be refunded when they file their tax return this year. Generally, if students properly claim exemption, they do not have to file a tax return.

Any time a student's income rises or falls, he or she should take a look at the W-4. It could mean the difference between paying tax or receiving a refund at the end of the year.

For more information on the working student's tax filing requirements, call the IRS at 1-800-829-3676, and order free Publication 4, *Student's Guide to Federal Income Tax*.

According To IRS, Tax Breaks Can Help Seniors

Many seniors can take advantage of special tax benefits offered only to them.

Generally, for 1993, single persons 65 or older do not have to file a federal income tax return if their income is less than \$6,950. The limit for a married couple filing a joint return is \$11,600 if only one spouse is 65 or older, and \$12,300 if both spouses are 65 or older.

Persons are considered age 65 on the day before their 65th birthday; therefore, those who turned 65 on January 1st, 1994, are considered to be age 65 at the end of 1993.

Anyone 65 or older and does not itemize deductions can take advantage of a higher standard deduction than other taxpayers. For 1993, \$900 is added to the regular standard deduction amount for qualifying unmarried individuals. For those who are married filing jointly or separately and for qualifying widows or widowers, the standard deduction is increased by \$700 if one spouse is 65 or older, \$1,400 if both are 65 or older, plus amounts if either is blind.



Older or disabled Americans may be able to reduce the taxes they owe with a tax credit called the "credit for the elderly or the disabled." It is based on filing status, age, and income. Generally, the credit is not available if the person's 1993 income level requires him or her to report any part of social security benefits as taxable income. Individuals under 65 will be eligible for this credit only if they retire with total and permanent disability and have income from a public or private employer because of that disability.

Senior citizens who are thinking about selling their personal residence should consider the once-in-a-lifetime \$125,000 exclusion of the gain on the sale of their home. Certain age, use, and ownership restrictions apply to this one-time exclusion from gross income. Also, there are special rules for persons with disabilities and widows or widowers.

Taxpayers needing assistance with their returns can turn to Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE). TCE is an IRS program through which volunteers from many organizations provide free tax information and assistance to individuals age 60 and older. Contact your local IRS office for locations near you.

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Last Chance To Save On '93 Taxes

Current IRA / SEP Rates
 30 Month CD 5.25% APR
 5.37% Effective Yield
 12 Month, 18 Month CD 5.00% APR
 5.11% Effective Yield

April 15th is your last opportunity to contribute to an Individual Retirement Account or SEP plan and still benefit from savings on your '93 tax returns.

With an Individual Retirement Account - IRA from Westfield Savings, you may be able to save as much as \$2,000 of your '93 earned income with Federal Taxes deferred. Working couples can save as much as \$4,000. Both State and Federal taxes will be deferred on the interest earned.

For information on IRA's, SEP's or other retirement plans see the Customer Service Representative at your local office or Westfield Savings Bank.

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Families

Agawam Knights Of C Celebrate Anniversary Of Organization

On Tuesday, March 29th, the Agawam Knights of Columbus celebrated the founding of their order 112 years ago by Father Michael J. McGivney of St. Mary's Parish of New Haven, Connecticut.

In commemorating this event, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson proclaimed the 29th of March, 1994 as Knights of Columbus Day in the Town of Agawam.

The John F. Kennedy Council of the Knights of Columbus in Agawam joined in celebrating its founding along with 1.5 million other Knights throughout the United States.

All Catholic men 18 years of age and older are invited to attend the annual Open House, April 24th at 7:00 p.m., in the basement meeting rooms of St. John the Evangelist Church, Main Street, Agawam.

Information regarding the Knights of Columbus and its activities will be available at this Open House. Light refreshments will be served.



MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON (center) proclaimed Tuesday, March 29th as Knights of Columbus Day in Agawam. Johnson is presenting the proclamation to Nelson Letendre (left), deputy grand knight of Council 5585, and Dick Smith, field agent for the Knights of Columbus. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Mittineague Women Plan Rummage Sale

The Women's Guild of the Mittineague Congregational Church of 1840 Westfield Street, West Springfield, announce their Fall Rummage Sale to be held in the Charles King Fellowship Hall of the Church on Friday, April 15th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Retirement Party For Stanley Chmielewski Planned For May 17th At Chez Josef

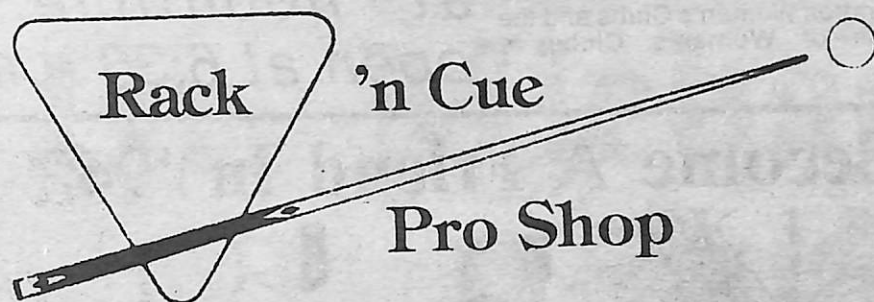
A retirement party to honor longtime Agawam Police Chief Stanley J. Chmielewski is being planned for Tuesday, May 17th at Chez Josef, 176 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam.

Chmielewski officially stepped down from the post he held since 1979 on April 4th. Tickets will

be \$25 per person. A social hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m.

For ticket information, call Daniel J. Lacienski, 786-3877; Richard Theroux, 786-0400, extension 215 (days); or Fred Nardi, 786-6068.

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**Saturday, April 16th
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Tour Our Cue-Making And Refinishing Facility

20 To 40% Off On Most Items

Custom Cues • Cases • Accessories
Home Tables • Sales And Service
Complete Cue Repairs and Refinishing

Bob Tetreault - Proprietor

786-4040

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, April 11th: Hamburger gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, oatmeal bread, banana.

Tuesday, April 12th: Roast turkey, stuffing with gravy, butter-nut squash, Canadian oat bread, canned pears.

Wednesday, April 13th: BBQ pork rib, potato puffs, mixed vegetables, whole wheat bread, applesauce with raisins.

Thursday, April 14th: Baked chicken leg, sweet potato, corn, pumpkin bread, chocolate pudding with whipped topping.

Friday, April 15th: Seafood casserole, egg noodles, peas, rye bread, blackberry muffin.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

With Start Of Spring, Use Common Sense Around Your Home

When the last traces of winter fade away, many homeowners can't wait to begin tinkering around the house. Catherine G. Anton, Executive Director of the Safety Council of Western Massachusetts, urges all ambitious home improvers to heed the following guidelines:

Fundamentals

— One of the first places to look for trouble is the roof. Watch for loose or missing shingles and leaks around flashing. Don't undertake repair work unless you're confident of your do-it-yourself abilities. Think about calling a professional.

— Be sure to inspect your gutters before April showers begin. If they are clogged, rainwater will overflow onto the siding of your house and cause possible moisture problems. Downspouts should carry rainwater safely away from the foundation of the house. If they pour water out on the ground, it will seep back into the basement.

— If your exterior paint job appears healthy, but it's just a little dirty, don't apply a fresh coat. Over-painting can cause problems. If all your home needs is a cleaning, wash it.

— **A special reminder to parents:** Never leave a container of liquid unattended near a small child. This includes wading pools, scrub buckets, toilets, and bathtubs. The curious youngster can lean over to play in the water or drop something in a bucket and fall in head first.

— Be sure patios, porches, and driveways are free from cracks and holes.

— Check for damage as you take down storm windows and put up screen doors and windows.

— Trim broken tree limbs and prune shrubs. Remove dry leaves and debris from under porches, wooden stairs, and window wells. Pick up all junk, cans, and other litter.

Inventory the inside

— Clear off stairways and steps. Check treads, risers, and carpeting and replace worn coverings.

— Inspect your air-conditioning system and have repairs made now, before summer begins. Give the fireplace a thorough cleaning and close the damper. Consider calling in a chimney sweep.

AHS's Class Of 1944 To Celebrate 50th Reunion In October

A 50th class reunion celebration is being planned for the Agawam High School class of 1944. The celebration is being planned for October 1st, 1994 at Alexander's Restaurant in Agawam. The reunion committee has been meeting since January and is asking for help in locating or contacting classmates for whom no address is known.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of these classmates—Joyce Bowe, Rose Cole Fitzgerald, Shirley Hare, Barbara Hartley, Leslie Linnehan, Mary Quirk, Stanley Saltzman, Richard West, or Richard White—please contact any of the following: Joyce Casiello Colburn, 786-6567; Susie Sadak Cotton, 739-1263; or Marge Raffinetti Colli, 786-3732.

Those who attended AHS with the class of 1944 but did not graduate for whatever reason, are welcome to come.

Jr. Women's Club Celebrating National Library Week

Join the Agawam Junior Women's Club in celebrating National Library Week beginning April 10th. This is the week to think about teaching children the love of reading.

Reading opens up whole new worlds to children. Worlds where they can discover about the past, present, and future. Through books, there is no country, world, or universe a child can't visit. Please share with your child the wonderful joy of reading.

The Agawam Library is filled to the brim with exciting novels, excellent resources for the child "that wants to know," magazines for any hobbyist, and reference materials just for the asking.

The library also provides videotapes, CD's, books-on-tape audiocassettes, and large print books for those with visual impairments. In addition, a variety of services are provided for children and seniors. Take advantage of this wonderful resource. **Visit you local library today!**

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Massachusetts.

Watercolorist To Give Demonstration/Talk At Ag. Senior Center

Master watercolorist Edward Minchin will be giving a demonstration and lecture on Sunday, April 10th, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center on Main Street in Agawam.

Born and educated in Essex, England, Edward "Ted" Minchin has received a B.A. in art from St. Martin's Art School in London. He has also studied in the United States, Canada, and England. His work has been enhanced by individual study with nationally recognized artists who are pioneers in the field of watercolor design.

Minchin's 30 years' background as a graphic and art illustrator is reflected in his works of strong design and inventive color use (which lean toward a semi-abstract manner which is readily identifiable). He works in transparent watercolor as well as opaque and transparent acrylic, and he is a firm believer of helping his students discover for themselves their own wonderful and unique talents.

Minchin is a member of the American Watercolor Society, the New England Watercolor Society, the Midwest Watercolor Society, the Kentucky Watercolor Society, and the Rockport Art Association.

His work is published in "Watercolor Techniques For Releasing The Creative Spirit" by Mosyllin Hughey Phillis, "Splash Two" by Northlight, and "Artist Magazine, September 1989, "On the Waterfront." Minchin is also the recipient of over 75 national awards throughout the United States and abroad.

His upcoming demonstration at the Agawam Senior Center this Sunday, April 10th, was made possible by grants from the Agawam Community Artists and the Agawam Cultural Council. Donations are accepted, but the demonstration is free to the public.

For additional information, contact Beverly Secondo-Wnads at 786-0138 or DeBorah A. Allen at 786-6087.

Birthday card ads are \$25 with picture; \$15 without picture. Deadline is Tuesday at noontime. We open at 6:30 a.m.

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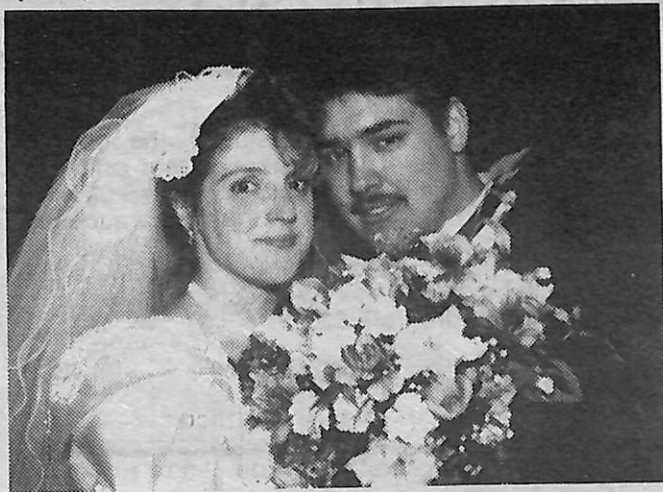
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MR. & MRS. MICHAEL BRAMES

Jennifer Haun Weds Michael Brames

Miss Jennifer Haun, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tomothy Haun of North Adams, MA, and Michael Brames, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Brames of Feeding Hills, were married January 7th in St. John's Episcopal Church in North Adams by the Rev. Lawrence Provezano.

The six o'clock ceremony was followed by a reception at Holiday Inn Berkshire.

The maid of honor was Ms. Christa Collier. Ms. Christina Brames, Mrs. Donna Richards, and Ms. Michele Dorman were bridesmaids.

Patrick Brames was best man. Ushers were Jeffrey Bleu, Joseph Hollis, Jr., and Louis Rivera.

Following a wedding trip to New York, the couple are living in Norfolk, Virginia.

A certified home health aide and nursing assistant, the bride was formerly employed by the Northern Berkshire Visiting Nurse Association. She graduated from Drury High School in 1992, from Caregivers Inc., Springfield, in 1993, and attended Bay Path College.

Mr. Brames is a fireman second class in the navy. He graduated from Agawam High School in 1992.

Best local news...

Bereaved Can Receive Help From Forastieres

"Forastiere's OPTIONS ... for a brighter tomorrow," support groups for anyone in the community who is grieving the death of a loved one, are offered free of charge every month by the Forastiere Family Funeral Homes.

As part of their continuous commitment to those who are grieving, the Forastiere's offer two different kinds of support groups: one designed especially and solely for those who have lost a spouse, and another, open to anyone who is grieving a death.

A support group solely for spouses will be held on Wednesday, April 13th, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam; and a second group is available on Tuesday, April 26th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 181 Elm Street, in East Longmeadow.

The support groups, which are open to anyone who is grieving a death, will be held on Wednesday, April 13th, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main St., in Agawam; and on Thursday, April 14th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the First Congregational Church, 7 Somers Rd., in East Longmeadow.

These support groups are on-going, 12 months a year. There is no pre-registration, nor commitment to attend. Participants need merely to attend any meeting they choose.

All groups are offered free of charge by the Forastiere Family Funeral Homes and are facilitated by staff Grief Counselor/Educator, Lila Forastiere. For further information, call 733-5311.

Ceccarini Family Announce Second Son

Mark & Beth Ceccarini of Feeding Hills are proud to announce the birth of their second son, Nicholas Andrew. Nick was born March 28th, weighing in at seven pounds, nine ounces.

Awaiting Nick's arrival home was his two year-old brother, Joey.

Maternal grandparents are Conrad & Marcia Phillips of Feeding Hills. Paternal grandparents are Renzo & Jean Ceccarini of Agawam. Nick's great-grandmothers are Anna Guidi of Feeding Hills and Mary Braica of Agawam.



CINDY L. SANFORD & JAMES D. TAYLOR

Cindy Sanford To Wed James D. Taylor

A wedding at the Agawam Congregational Church is planned for Cindy L. Sanford and James D. Taylor. The couple were engaged in October and will be wed at an evening service on July 15th.

Parents of the bride-to-be are Mr. & Mrs. Frederick F. Sanford of Agawam. She received her education from Central Connecticut State College and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She is employed as an office administrator for Wegiel Travel Services, Inc. and serves as a trustee of the Agawam Congregational Church.

Parents of the groom-to-be are Mr. & Mrs. Donald H. Taylor of Sebastian, Florida. He received his education from Springfield Technical Community College and the University of Massachusetts. He is the owner of Taylor Property Services and President of the Agawam City Council.

The couple plans to make their home in Agawam.

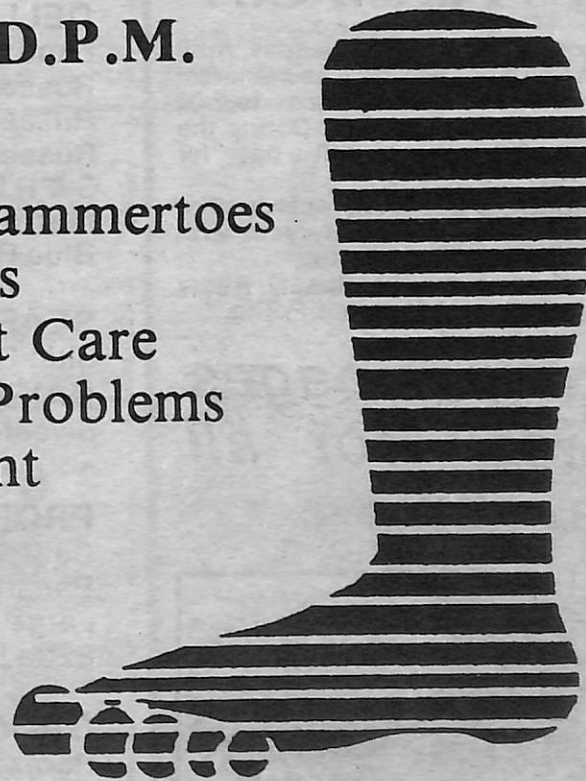
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786-7522



Agawam Garden Club To Meet At Leonard House On April 12th

On Tuesday, April 12th, the Agawam Garden Club will hold their meeting at the Captain Charles Leonard House at 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be Arline Ely, a well-traveled travel agent.

Her topic will be of garden trips, with a slide presentation of the tulip festival in Ontario and Ottawa, Canada. Also, she will have a general slide presentation (accompanied by music) of various flowers in the garden.

Refreshments will be served after the presentation. Please bring a friend for an enjoyable evening. The public is welcome.

PROGRAMS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 1994:

- * May 10th - Plant swap & penny auction.
- * May 21st - Annual plant sale (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon).
- * June - A month of flower arrangements by members at the Agawam Public Library.
- * June 14th - Garden to attract butterflies and birds. Pernel Gerver - Agawam Public Library, 7:00 p.m.
- * June 18th - Saturday tours of members' gardens.
- * July 12th - Tour of Pam Jacobsen's gardens.
- * August 9th - Annual picnic.
- * September 13th - Native American (Cherokee) drumming and singing by Rainbow N S. Why we sing, drum, and dance. How it affects our health.
- * October 11th - To be announced.
- * November 8th - Annual banquet, Agawam Congregational Church.
- * November - Greens meeting (end of November).
- * December 3rd & 4th: Yuletide at Storowton.

Health Coordinator To Speak Before Ag. Junior Women

On April 19th, Connie Hutton, Agawam Health Coordinator, will speak at the monthly meeting of the Agawam Junior Women's Club on the Health Curriculum for all Agawam school grades. Her presentation will include her proposed additions and ideas for future programs.

All interested parents are welcome to attend the meeting at the Captain Charles Leonard House a 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

For more information about the meeting, call Nahcy Camp at 786-9971. The club welcomes new friends interested in serving the community.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.

Rummage Sale Slated At Sacred Heart Church's Parish Ctr.

There will be a rummage sale on Tuesday, April 19th, in the Parish Center of Sacred Heart Church.

The doors will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and again from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. During the evening hours, you will be able to "fill a bag" for \$3.

There will be clothes, shoes, etc., for the entire family, as well as a white elephant room with books, collectables, toys, and so forth.

The sale is sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society, and the chairman is Florence Potito.

You turn our pages every week for all the local news

Mt. Carmel School Slates Giant Tag Sale For Saturday, April 9th In Springfield

The Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School PTA in Springfield is holding its third annual Giant Tag Sale on Saturday, April 9th.

There will be over 20 tables of new and used items, including toys, clothing, jewelry, something for everyone. Breakfast and lunch will be available throughout the day. There will also be raffles.

The Tag Sale will be held in the school auditorium located at 36 Margaret Street, off Main Street in Springfield. The hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The auditorium is handicap accessible.

Between the hours of 5:00 and 7:00 p.m., a ziti dinner will be held in the lower school hall. Adults are \$5 and children are \$3.

Check our classified pages every week

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Center Cut Chops	\$2.39 Lb.
Center Cut Roast	\$2.19 Lb.
Country Style Ribs	\$1.89 Lb.
Loin End Roast	\$1.69 Lb.
Rib End Roast	\$1.49 Lb.
Boneless Roast (Cut From Loin & Rib End)	\$2.19 Lb.
Fresh Ground Pork	\$1.89 Lb.

USDA CHOICE

Boneless Sirloin Steak	\$3.69 Lb.
Boneless Spoon Roast	\$3.29 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	

5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.89 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.

Fresh Hamburg Patties (2 Lb. Box)	\$4.89
Sweet Life Beef Franks (1 Lb. Box)	\$1.69
Sweet Life Bacon (1 Lb. Pkg.)	\$1.49

WHOLESALE MEATS

Whole Pork Loins	\$1.69 Lb.
Whole Boneless Top Sirloins	\$2.39 Lb.
Whole Butt Tenderloins	\$3.99 Lb.

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY SPECIAL

Sliced Beef Liver	79¢ Lb.
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DELI

Land O' Lakes White American Cheese	\$2.69 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.19 Lb.
Russer Cooked Salami	\$1.99 Lb.
Russer Virginia Baked Ham	\$2.99 Lb.
S & R Provolone Cheese	\$2.69 Lb.
Marval Turkey Breast	\$1.99 Lb.
Blue Ridge Olive Salad	\$1.69 Lb.

SEAFOOD

Skin-On Haddock	\$2.99 Lb.
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DAIRY

Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$1.99
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PRODUCE

California Strawberries (Pt.)	99¢
Bananas	39¢ Lb.
Large Slicing Tomatoes	69¢ Lb.
Extra Large Stuffing Peppers	79¢ Lb.

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Purex Liquid Laundry Detergent (Gallon)	\$3.99
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Church News

Ag. Congregational's Calendar Of Events

On Friday, April 8th, at 5:15 p.m., Diane Crowell from the Open Pantry, West Springfield, will visit the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

She will be talking with the church's 456 Club and the Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups about homelessness. She will also bring with her a friend who is homeless and who'll be speaking to the youths about what it is like.

The youths will be eating an American chop suey dinner together. They will then be spending the night trying to understand more fully what being homeless and without resources in our town would be like; they will also be putting together a temporary shelter.

This night will also mark the kick-off of the church's canned goods competition, "Who Will Bring In The Goods?", for all of its youth groups. The groups have until May 1st for this competition.

Donations for any group will be accepted, and all goods will be donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

This Sunday, April 10th, Agawam Congregational Church will be holding its Communion Sunday Service.

Following the service, the church will hold its annual meeting for 1994, at which time there will be the election of officers and committee members.

On Sunday night at 7:00 p.m., there will be a meeting for all parents, guardians, and youth of the church's "On To Oakland" trip.

The church has raised money so far from candy selling, and those associated with the trip will be making plans for the next big fundraiser at this meeting.

Come to go to California and the church meeting!

Spring into spring with the Agawam Congregational Church's "Spring Festival," sponsored by the Ladies Aid Society. It will be held on Saturday, April 16th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Come and join the celebration of springtime where you will find a "Garden Gate," "Country Craft Shop," "Nutmeg Bakery," "The Cutting Edge," and many more booths.

Stop at the "Daffodil Lunch Cafe" for rest and refreshment. Enjoy a chicken salad plate, ham & potato salad or seafood roll with lemon delight, or fresh fruit for dessert.

Local crafters will also be showing their wares. Mark your calendars TODAY!

Catholic Women's Club Believe In SHARE



AGAWAM CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB members, from left - Mickie Adelman, Gail Troie, Alice Buell, and Marty Jerry package food that will be distributed through the SHARE Program at St. John's Church on April 23rd. For more information, call St. John's. Related photo front page. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam Catholic Women's Club Plans "Mystery Ride" For April 11th

The annual "Mystery Ride" will be the feature of the next meeting of the Catholic Women's Club of Agawam on Monday, April 11th. Members are asked to note the change in time.

Members will meet in the parking lot of St. John the Evangelist Church between 6:30 and 6:45 p.m. for car-pooling purposes. Departure will be promptly at 7:00 p.m. A brief business meeting will be held, and refreshments will be served at the destination site.

Mrs. Betsy Ciempa, "Mystery Ride" chairwoman, asks those planning to attend to please call her at 786-5160. Mrs. Angela Beaudry is hospitality chairwoman for the evening.

When mailing classified ads to our office (P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030), please make sure that you write "Attention: Classifieds" on the outside envelope.

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Friday Bingo

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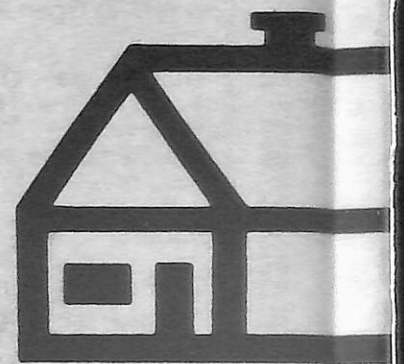
Month-Long Ann

★ Enter To
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Anniversary C

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- (2) Unfinished pine hutch
- (3) 9 x 12 bound carpet
- (4) 9 x 12 vinyl
- (5) Dinner for 2

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• 26-Oz. Comm.	\$6.29 sq. yd.	\$9.79 sq. yd.

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- (5) Skating passes for Rollaway

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Church News - continued...**Activities At Feeding Hills Cong. Church**

The Rev. Robert Donaldson's sermon is entitled "If Not Now, When?" for the 10:00 a.m. worship service at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church on Sunday, April 10th.

On Sunday, April 10th, the Board of Stewardship and Missions will have the monthly collection of dry goods, canned food, and clothing for the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

The 21-Plus Club is planning the annual all-church retreat at Warner Farm for the weekend of April 22nd-24th.

Warner Farm is a beautiful homestead on 120 acres of land in Cummington, MA, and is operated by the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Sunday School classes for all age groups and morning worship are held each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church.

Nursery service is available, and visitors and friends are cordially invited.

Roast Beef Dinner At F.H. Congregational

Operation Friendship of America, a non-profit, youth cultural exchange program sponsored by the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, is having a Roast Beef Supper on Saturday, April 9th, with continuous servings from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the church, 21 North Westfield Street.

The menu includes juice, tossed salad, roast beef, mashed potato, gravy, vegetable, rolls and butter, beverage, and dessert.

Donation is \$7 for adults, \$3.75 for children, and under five is free. A bake sale will be held during the supper.

All proceeds from the supper will be used for the church youth to travel to Europe next summer. Reservations can be made by calling JoAnn Fisher, 786-0381. If you reach an answering machine, please leave your name, the number of reservations, and your telephone number.

"God's Heart For Children" Is Topic At Church Of The Bible

Are children significant in God's plan? What happens to children when they die? Can children believe in Jesus?

These and other questions will be addressed in teachings from the Bible entitled "God's Heart For Children" on Sunday, April 10th.

This event is being hosted by the Agawam Church of the Bible, which meets each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. at the Agawam Junior High School. The church also hosts an informal discussion group that gives an opportunity for you to ask your own questions.

Exciting classes are provided for children ages three to 14, and children ages one to three have their own nursery. So, bring your questions and join us this Sunday.

St. Theresa's Women's Roast Pork Dinner Club Slates 2nd Annual Communion Breakfast Slated April 10th By Swk. Church

Saint Theresa's Women's Club will hold its second annual Communion Breakfast on Sunday, April 24th. This event will follow a special 9:00 a.m. mass at St. Theresa's, Bridge Street, Agawam, which will be co-celebrated by the Most Reverend Bishop Joseph Maguire and Father Albert Breton.

After mass, a special 10:30 a.m. catered breakfast will take place at the Agawam Senior Center, Wright Street (off Main Street), Agawam. Donation for the breakfast is \$7.50, and tickets may be purchased from Helen Manning, 786-5768, or Fran Berwald, 789-2738.

The public is invited. Door prizes can be won.

A public roast pork dinner will be held this Sunday, April 10th, at Christ Church United Methodist, 220 College Highway, Southwick.

There will be two sittings (12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m.), and the suggested donation is \$7 for adults, and \$3.75 for children under 12.

For reservations, call 569-5578 or 569-6311.

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Spotlight On Business

Alvin's Sandwich Shop Becoming Famous For Healthy Food, Service

Simply put, Alvin's Sandwich Shops, located at 340 Walnut Street Extension, Agawam, offers a large variety of sandwiches that can be best described as "the banquet of sandwiches."

Owned and operated by the brother and sister team of Rich Gloster and Mary Gloster Doty, Alvin's Sandwich Shops opened its doors on September 1st, 1989.

Rich is a 1976 graduate of Agawam High School and Mary graduated in 1971. Both have many years of experience in the food service industry, and this knowledge and know-how has helped keep the business growing and they prepare for their five year anniversary.

Good & Healthy Food

Alvin's is not a fast food sandwich place. Rich says the trademark of Alvin's is "good and healthy food served quickly in a pleasant atmosphere." Alvin's is famous for its freshly made French pan or whole wheat pan bread. And when entering the restaurant the other morning, the aroma of the bread baking in the back filled the air.

"We boast that the best bread makes the best sandwiches, and we have them both," Rich told us. "We try to keep things simple here. And by serving healthy food and by allowing self service, people enjoy coming in."

Alvin's famous sandwiches include "Cheese Salvation" (no meat), Roast Beef, Sliced Turkey Breast, Seafood Salad, Ham & Cheese, Turkey Club, Tuna Salad, Grilled Chicken Breast, and many others. All sandwiches on the menu (except the Grilled Chicken Breast, only small) are served either small, medium, or extra-large. And each sandwich is literally a banquet of its own.

For example, the "Cheese Salvation" is described as "extra large helpings of cheddar mozzarella and parmesan cheeses toasted into a fresh bun. Add lettuce, tomatoes, mustard and a variety of seasonings for a real taste treat." The Seafood Salad is described as "a delicious blend of crab, seafood, celery, mayonnaise specially mixed and served on our freshly baked bread. Add lettuce and tomatoes to complete this sandwich treat."

Alvin's also offers "Salad Bowl Selections," which include either tuna, chicken, seafood, chef, garden, and Greek (the dressings are great), and a soup of the day.

"The Perfect Endings" are self-serve Stoneyfield Premium Nonfat real frozen yogurt or delicious chocolate chip cookie pies or "devilish" Brownies.

There is self-service on coffee, tea, soda, ice tea, lemonade, and munchies.

Have Opened In Springfield

Rich and Mary opened their second Alvin's location last December 6th at the Merchants Exchange in downtown Springfield. Both reported the new sandwich shop is doing well. Nearly five years ago the two had first looked to downtown Springfield for their first Alvin's but said they "stumbled onto the Walnut Street Extension location and decided to go with it."

SEE ALVIN'S - Page 20...



ALVIN'S SANDWICH SHOP is located at 340 Walnut Street Extension, Agawam. Advertiser

News photo by Jack Devine.



RICH GLOSTER AND MARY DOTY, owners and operators of Alvin's Sandwich Shop, are pictured at a recent business and trade show at THE BIG E with their brother, Dan Gloster. Dan owns two Alvin's in Eastern Mass. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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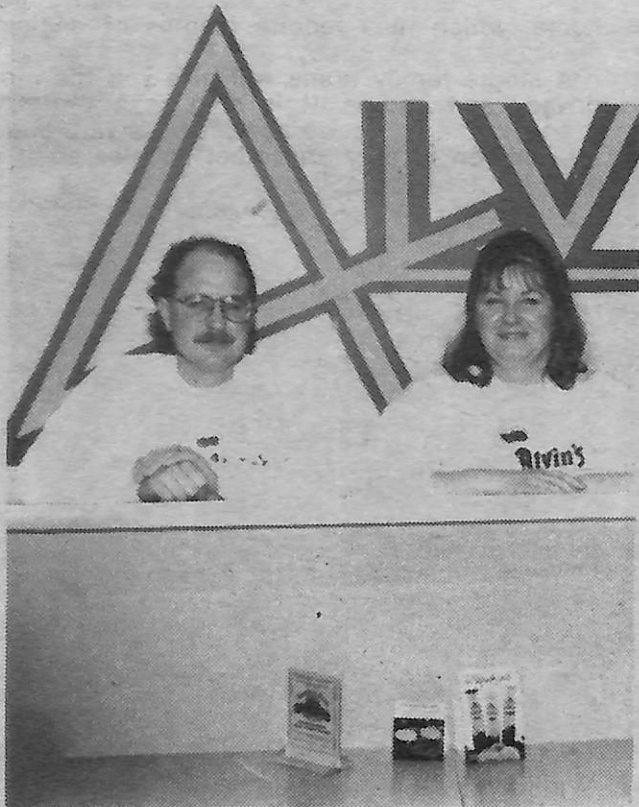
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Spotlight On Business - continued...

RICH GLOSTER, a 1976 graduate of Agawam High School, and his sister, **Mary Gloster Doty**, a 1971 graduate of Agawam High, are co-owners and operators of popular **ALVIN'S SANDWICH SHOP** on Walnut Street Extension, Agawam. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

ALVIN'S RESTAURANT - from Page 19...

After graduating from Agawam High School in 1976, Rich attended culinary school in New York City for two years. He is the former head chef at the Federal Hill Club in Agawam (1980-1987) and the former assistant chef at Chez Josef in Agawam (1987-1989). He is also regionally-renowned for his ice sculptures, which have been seen at many popular banquet facilities and restaurants. He learned this skill while working for Omni International Hotels in Atlanta.

Mary previously worked for a company that sold computer data systems to restaurants and the businesses involved in the food service industry. She is also a 1975 graduate of Westfield State College with a degree in teaching.

Rich and Mary opened **Alvin's** after their brother, Danny, a 1973 graduate of Agawam High, successfully opened an **Alvin's** in Saugus in Eastern Massachusetts. Mary said she decided to throw in with Rich because of his background and success in food services and because Danny had proved that **Alvin's** was a sandwich shop that would work and prosper.

The two called themselves "customer friendly" and a sign hanging up behind the cash register lists reasons why customers do not return to many businesses. The most critical reason for 68 percent of no-return customers was employee "indifference, rudeness, and lack of service."

Alvin's received an award from the Agawam Health Department in 1991 which Rich and Mary say is a tribute to their efforts and those of their employees.

Alvin's also services business meetings, conferences, inservice, and office parties. "There is no mess or time needed for each person to make their own sandwich. Just pick up your favorite and enjoy. Each platter is designed by you, choosing from over 13 different sandwiches and two types of bread. This gives you the flexibility to please even the most discriminating tastes," said Rich.

According to Mary, with their culinary background to help plan the party, "it will be assured that your reputation continues to shine while paying for only what you choose."

For takeout, call **Alvin's** at 786-3343. **Alvin's** also serves light breakfast, which includes bagels and muffins, and different toasts served on the freshly made pan bread. **Alvin's** is open Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and Sunday, noontime to 5:00 p.m.

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Opening Day At Riverside Park



THE ANNUAL AGAWAM DAY was held at Riverside Park on Friday, April 1st. **IN TOP PHOTO**, owner Edward Carroll and his cast of walkaround characters are pictured with Mayor Christopher C. Johnson and Town Council Vice-President George Bitzas; below, cutting the ribbon are Town Councilor Vivian Dziardziel, Chamber of Commerce President Kurt Welker, School Committee member Linda Galarneau, Town Councilor Jill Simpson, Town Council Vice-President George Bitzas, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, Edward Carroll, and Town Councilors Thomas Ennis and Edward Caba. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Enjoy Country/Western At The Agawam American Legion

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Hall Rentals

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"Swift Kick" - Friday, April 22nd

"Avalanche" - Friday, April 29th

"Special Drink Of The Month
Pete's Wicked Ale - 1/2 Pt. \$1.25"



Spotlight On Business - continued...



by
John Schuler
realtor



Newschu Real Estate, Inc.
20 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills

The best approach to take while planning for your home search is to be clear about your needs and wants before you start looking.

Your first step should be to determine where you want to live. Location is the single most important factor in buying a new home. It will partially determine the price of the home and will be a powerful influence on your lifestyle.

If you are from out-of-town, ask co-workers and acquaintances for their views. Rely on the services of a professional real estate agent, they make it their business to know the area — with its neighborhoods, recreational facilities, schools, and shopping.

Once you've identified a general geographic area for your new residence, decide what you want in a home. There are two basic choices; (1) a new or existing structure, (2) a single family home or a condo.

The "new" versus "existing" question means reviewing the benefits of established neighborhoods and sometimes superior building materials compared with the latest amenities, appliances, and style.

Purchasing a new home requires the added expense of window coverings, upgrades in flooring (carpeting, tile, wood, etc.), landscaping, and a

great deal of time and patience.

To many, an existing home that has been well cared for is much more attractive than a new home, which may require months of decision making and cash outlay.

A single family home will give you the most privacy and choice. It is also generally more spacious than a condo and provides yard space for children to play and other hobbies such as gardening. Landscaping can be designed to be maintenance free, giving maximum enjoyment for minimum work.

Condos free you from the burden of general upkeep and provide common areas for your use. Some condo projects offer swimming pools and other recreational facilities for your enjoyment. Condos are also usually more affordable.

Narrowing your search to homes with specific features that you want will save you lots of time. Make a "want list" to define your future home. A professional real estate agent that has access to the Multiple Listing Service can assist you in your search by comparing you "want list" with the homes available through the service.

BUSINESS REVIEW

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Southwick Construction Peter Jakobowski, Owner

For fast, dependable septic tank or cesspool service, call **Southwick Construction**, located in Southwick, phone 569-6247. They are your local experts for installation and repairing of septic tanks and cesspools.

Fair and honest prices along with individual attention have established a good reputation for these reliable experts throughout the entire area. Whatever the size job, this firm can be relied upon for fast dependable work. In most cases, they can locate broken lines and install septic tanks.

A faulty septic tank or cesspool is both a safety and sanitary hazard. **Southwick Construction** is always available for fast emergency service. They have the proper equipment to handle any job in the most competent manner. For quality work and the assurance of a job well done, be sure to call **Southwick Construction**. They can be depended on for complete satisfaction.

Suburban Chevrolet Geo, Inc.

With so many of the new models being similar in features and price, how does the prospective new car buyer know WHICH automobile is best? Well, as the saying goes, "If you don't know cars—know the people you buy from." In this area, consumers are very fortunate in having a dealer like **Suburban Chevrolet Geo**. Located in Southwick at 661 College Highway Southwick, phone 569-0191, this well-known firm is your authorized representative for the famous cars and trucks.

Besides offering a full line of quality products, this community-minded dealership bases its success of selling thousands of vehicles on a simple fact of good business—keep the customer satisfied! This business of customer satisfaction begins in the showroom or used car lot and continues right on through their complete service department, where skilled technicians and the latest diagnostic test equipment assure you that your vehicle will keep you satisfied for many years to come.

If you're in the market for a superior automobile, backed by superior service you can count on, stop by **Suburban Chevrolet Geo** today.

John's Trucking Of Agawam, Inc.

Sand and gravel is the business of **John's Trucking Of Agawam**, located in Agawam at 415 Silver Street, phone (413) 786-3340. These people are fully equipped and qualified to serve you in all of your sand and gravel needs.

Special attention is given to contractors and homeowners alike. This experienced sand and gravel company is known in this area for a reputation of honesty and reliability. You can depend on them to furnish you with materials of the highest quality. Fast, dependable service is their motto. The materials you buy, including screen loam and decorative stone, will meet the most rigid specifications of the building industry.

When you are in the market for sand and gravel of the highest quality, be sure to call **John's Trucking Of Agawam**. Their radio-dispatched trucks are expertly maintained and you can depend on them to have the materials you need on the job when you are ready for it. Regardless if your needs are large or small, **John's Trucking Of Agawam** has the experience and equipment to handle the job. Give them a call soon.

Skop, Inc., Vending Service

Business owners who are looking for ways to increase their earnings will be interested in the services offered by **Skop, Inc., Vending Service**, located in Westfield, phone 568-8523. They serve this entire area supplying quality vending and coin operated machines of every kind.

You know how popular the new video games have become. Well, you can have one of these games in your business and earn a commission on every dollar spent on it. Or, if your location and type of business do not lend themselves to a video game, you may want a snack, beverage, candy or coffee vending machine placed in your building. Restaurants will be interested in their juke boxes.

The knowledge that it takes to properly choose the right and most profitable machines, and repair them as well, could certainly not be covered in any small book. The management of this well-liked concern is ever striving to fill the needs of businesses who look to them for high quality, high profit devices. The fact that they serve their customers well is evident by the number of businessmen who trust in them to handle their accounts. For all your vending machine questions, contact **Skop, Inc., Vending Service**. They are sure to have the answers.

Apple Valley Rentals Jeanne Wing, Owner

Many residential property owners prefer to turn over the rental supervision of their residential properties to a professional rental management agency. For many this is a wise decision, because it means that their property and their interests in it are being protected and managed by professionals, while at the same time they are freed from the day-to-day responsibilities usually associated with ownership.

Experienced and responsible real estate management at reasonable rates is available from **Apple Valley Rentals**. They are located in Westfield, and may be reached by dialing 572-1200. **Apple Valley Rentals** handles residential rentals with experience and expertise. They will rent and care for your property at a reasonable cost to you. **Apple Valley Rentals** sees that your building is maintained properly. Both you and those who rent or lease your property will be satisfied with their responsible management, and you'll be pleased with the profits they make for you.

Many others have trusted their properties to these capable professionals. Turn over your property management to **Apple Valley Rentals**! Their integrity, responsibility and good business sense is the basis of their fine reputation throughout the area.

Tony Meccia, Inc.

Serving The Area Since 1940

The art of creative landscaping is a job for an experienced professional. Long considered to be one of the local area's leading landscape contractors, **Tony Meccia, Inc.**, located in Agawam at 319 Meadow Street, phone 789-0432, has earned an excellent reputation throughout the area.

This reliable firm specializes in beautifying the exterior of your home or business with the addition of sprinkler systems, a new lawn, shrubs, trees, flowers, rocks and many other distinctive decorator items which only a true artisan can install properly. These professionals will install a sprinkler system which will provide the irrigation needed to maintain lush, green lawns and healthy shrubs. Their years of experience and their dedication to do a professional job are your guarantees that your grounds will look better than ever before. When you call **Tony Meccia, Inc.** to do your landscaping, you get more than just a job. You get the environmental designs of an expert. The ecology isn't forgotten when this skilled company is on the job, and they specialize in producing "natural" effects. They are experts in all phases of landscaping, whether it be for residential or commercial properties.

Let their specialists design and create that especially distinctive look that is presently missing from your home or business. Landscaping is something best done by professionals. Rely on the professionals at **Tony Meccia, Inc.** for all your landscaping needs.

J.R. Sweeping Service

Jim Ricco, Owner • Over 7 Years Of Experience

Shopping centers, industrial plants, businesses and municipalities throughout the area have come to rely on **J.R. Sweeping Service**, located in Agawam at 25 Washington Avenue Extension, phone 786-2168, for reliable parking lot maintenance. In today's society, business owners find an attractive outside business appearance maintains professionalism and respect for and from the community. Finding time to keep a clean parking lot can present a problem.

J.R. Sweeping Service provides the most reliable power sweeping service for parking lots, shopping centers and municipalities in surrounding areas. They operate in the late night hours when the parking lots are free of traffic. Their vacuum sweepers clear debris from the grass and sidewalk areas, sweep the entire parking lot and vacuum the debris so your parking area is left with a clean, well-kept appearance. **J.R. Sweeping Service** offers service contracts on a weekly, monthly or annual basis. They employ only experienced, dependable personnel so you are assured of service that cannot be excelled. Special attention is given to both small and large businesses alike.

Their representative will come out to your business, assess your needs and quote you a fair price—all at no obligation to you. Remember, for dependable sweeping services, call **J.R. Sweeping Service** today for a free estimate or more information. This reputable firm knows how to keep your business "looking good."

A.J. Pelletier Restorations

Serving Western Massachusetts For 25 Years

Now that winter's over, we have come to realize that a good roof and windows are an important factor in the protection of your building investment. Well-known for the installation and maintenance of all types of roofing and replacement windows is **A.J. Pelletier Restorations**, located in Westfield, phone 532-6346.

The experts at **A.J. Pelletier Restorations** have carefully studied the various roofing products available, and can suggest the best application for your particular needs with "old-fashioned" quality workmanship. This reliable company specializes in slate, asphalt and copper roofing, and with all copper gutters and roofing, all seams are soldered. **A.J. Pelletier Restorations** also specializes in thermal insulated windows which not only insulate and beautify your home, but are easy to maintain and clean. These professionals are able to install replacement windows in older homes to enhance its restoration without losing its original beauty.

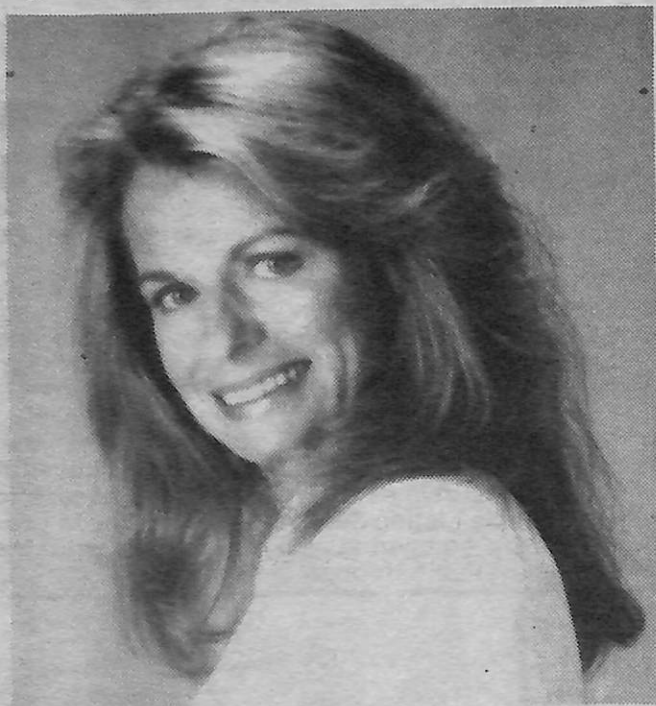
Remember, your home or business is a major investment of a lifetime. Don't take chances, call **A.J. Pelletier Restorations** for all your roofing and replacement window needs today. The highest compliment their customers can give is the referral of their family and friends—Massachusetts License No. 058671—Massachusetts Registration No. 113396.

O'Connor Chiropractic Office Of West Springfield James T. O'Connor, BA, DC, PC

Join the millions of people who find relief from pain and other health problems each year through chiropractic care. Most areas of the body are controlled by nerves passing through the spinal column. Therefore, any misalignments of the vertebrae can disturb these nerves causing many painful and irregular conditions. These conditions include, but are not limited to, headaches, back, neck and shoulder pain, numbness in your arms and legs, foot problems and nervousness.

Chiropractic is a method of locating any nerve interference caused by misaligned vertebrae, and adjusting the spinal column to allow the body to function at its optimum. Doctors of chiropractic spend countless hours learning palpation (the art of examining by touch) and spinal examining procedures in order to administer a specific spinal adjustment. **Dr. James T. O'Connor**, located in West Springfield at 615 Westfield Street, phone 736-1680, is a highly trained chiropractic physician with over 30 years of experience. Through a careful and thorough examination, including x-rays, **Dr. O'Connor** will locate the nerve interference and recommend the appropriate adjustments and therapy. His office will file Medicare, Workers' Compensation or other insurance for you.

If you have been in an automobile or work-related accident, have back pain or a health condition that is not responding to other medical treatment, you owe it to yourself to let **Dr. O'Connor** and chiropractic help you. The office of **Dr. O'Connor** reminds you that National Chiropractic Week is September 14 through 20.

Spotlight On Business - continued...

FAITH SULLIVAN

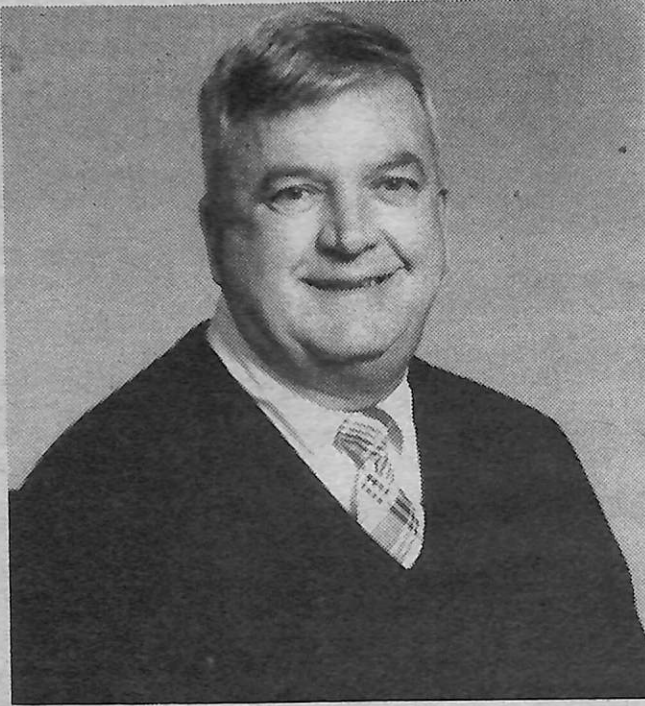
Massage Therapist Opens In West Side

Faith Sullivan, certified massage therapist, has recently opened a therapeutic massage therapy business in West Springfield. Located on Route 20, the office offers its clients neuromuscular therapy, Swedish and sports massage techniques, and polarity treatments, with a focus on relaxation and the release of chronic pain patterns.

Faith received her training at Stillpoint Center of Massage Therapy and the St. John Neuromuscular Pain Institute. She has also done undergraduate work at Holyoke Community College and Baystate Medical School of Nursing.

A West Springfield native, Faith lives in Agawam, is married to Charles E. Sullivan, and has four grown children.

Faith states that the office is open six days a week with evening hours available, free parking and shower facilities included, MasterCard, VISA, and insurance accepted.



LARRY SHEEHAN

Larry Sheehan Joins Molta Real Estate's Agawam Office

Molta Real Estate, Inc., is pleased to announce that Larry Sheehan has joined the staff of the Agawam office.

A teacher for 33 years at Agawam High School, Larry received his bachelor's degree from Saint Anselm's and his master's degree at Westfield State College. He is also a Notary Public.

Larry is returning to the real estate industry, having been licensed for many years and had, at one time, owned his own business. He is well-qualified and knowledgeable in the field.

For any real estate needs that you might have, please call Larry at Molta's Agawam office (789-9890) or at his home (786-2305).

Local Attorney To Offer House Calls

Gina-Marie Letellier, life-long resident of Agawam and an attorney admitted to practice in Massachusetts, is pleased to announce that she will be available to make house calls to clients in the Agawam-West Springfield area.

Residents with questions about civil and probate matters such as wills, living wills, health care proxies, estate planning, Medicaid planning, divorce, paternity, child support, child custody, personal injuries, or landlord and tenant issues are welcome to contact Attorney Letellier for a free initial consultation in their home.

Attorney Letellier is associated with the law firm of LaCroix & Fuller and can be reached at 739-2112 or 95 State Street, Suite 309, in Springfield. Anyone with questions about these services or the availability of house calls should contact Attorney Letellier.

Attorney Letellier feels this service will be especially beneficial to those residents who, due to age or infirmity or poor weather, have legal questions or need the services of an attorney but cannot make arrangements to get to a law office. After the initial consultation, the fee for legal services is the same whether the client travels to Attorney Letellier's office or she travels to your home.

Attorney Gina-Marie Letellier is the daughter of Agawam Police Officer Walter "Terry" Letellier and Maryanne M. Letellier of Maple Street in Agawam.

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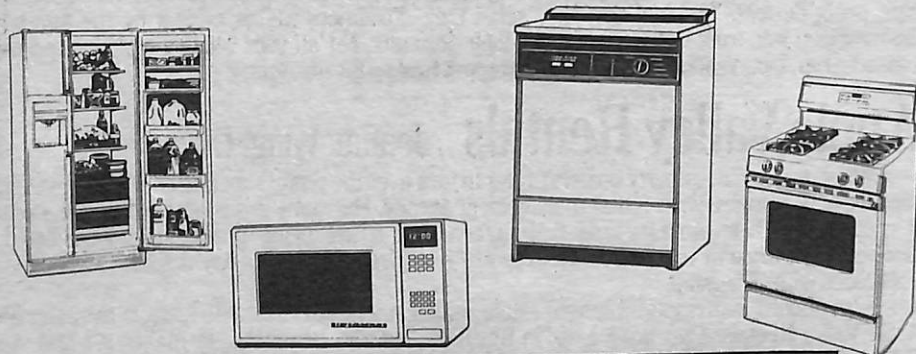
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Spotlight On Business - continued...

Charest Home Improvement Can Beautify Your House



WITH OVER 25 years experience in the siding business, Larry Charest, owner of Charest Home Improvement, has left his trademark on many, many homes in Agawam and Feeding Hills. Call Larry today at 786-8666. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

*You turn our
classified pages
each week - AAN!!!*



LARRY CHAREST, owner and operator of Charest Home Improvement of Agawam, has a big selection of the latest energy-saving vinyl windows. Call Larry at 786-8666. With the arrival of Spring, Larry wants to work hard for you. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

IRS Offers Special Tax Credit. Ask Your Boss

Ask your boss for an advance! If you qualify, you could get extra take-home pay in your paycheck through a special tax credit called the "advance earned income credit" (AEIC). And, at no cost to your employer.

If you are eligible for the earned income credit (EIC), you can claim the credit on your tax return, or you may be able to get advance EIC payments of the basic credit during the year with your pay.

Persons eligible for advance payments of the EIC are generally those with one qualifying child and an expected earned income and adjusted gross income of less than \$23,755 for 1994. Although eligible persons can receive up to \$2,038 of the EIC, advance payments of the EIC are

limited to 60 percent of the maximum credit to a taxpayer with one qualifying child.

To receive advance payments, fill out Form W-5, "Earned Income Credit Advance Payment Certificate," and give it to your employer. Your employer will figure the amount to include in each paycheck. The advance payments will reduce the amount of tax your employer must pay the IRS for employment tax liabilities.

For further details on the EIC and AEIC, see the instructions for Form W-5 and Publication 596, *Earned Income Credit*. To order any free IRS forms and publications, call 1-800-829-3676.

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Spotlight On Business - continued...



Financial Planning

by Howard A. Dickstein
Certified Financial Planner
IDS Financial Services
Whitney Place, 14 Bobala Rd.
Holyoke — 534-3883

Setting Up A Budget Now Can Save You A Lot Of Pain Later

It's not too late to make a New Year's resolution. A good one would be to set up a budget—and follow it. Taking the time to itemize and organize your cash flow now could save you a lot of pain at year's end—and at tax time next year.

Many people today are concerned about having enough money for retirement or for sending children to college. They also want to make sure that they have funds for shorter-term goals such as vacations or new furniture.

To start this process, you need to track how much money comes in and how much goes out—a simple cash flow exercise. The first part of budgeting is like taking inventory. You need to know where you stand. List your expected earnings for the year on a monthly basis. Don't forget any interest or dividend earnings.

The next step is to list your monthly expenses: mortgage or rent payment, car or other loans, insurance, school, groceries, gasoline or other transportation costs, medical expenses, clothing and entertainment.

If you're not sure what to include, go through your checkbook, credit card receipts, utility bills and store register tapes to find out how you've spent your money. Remember infrequent expenses such as health club dues, car license fees and car maintenance costs.

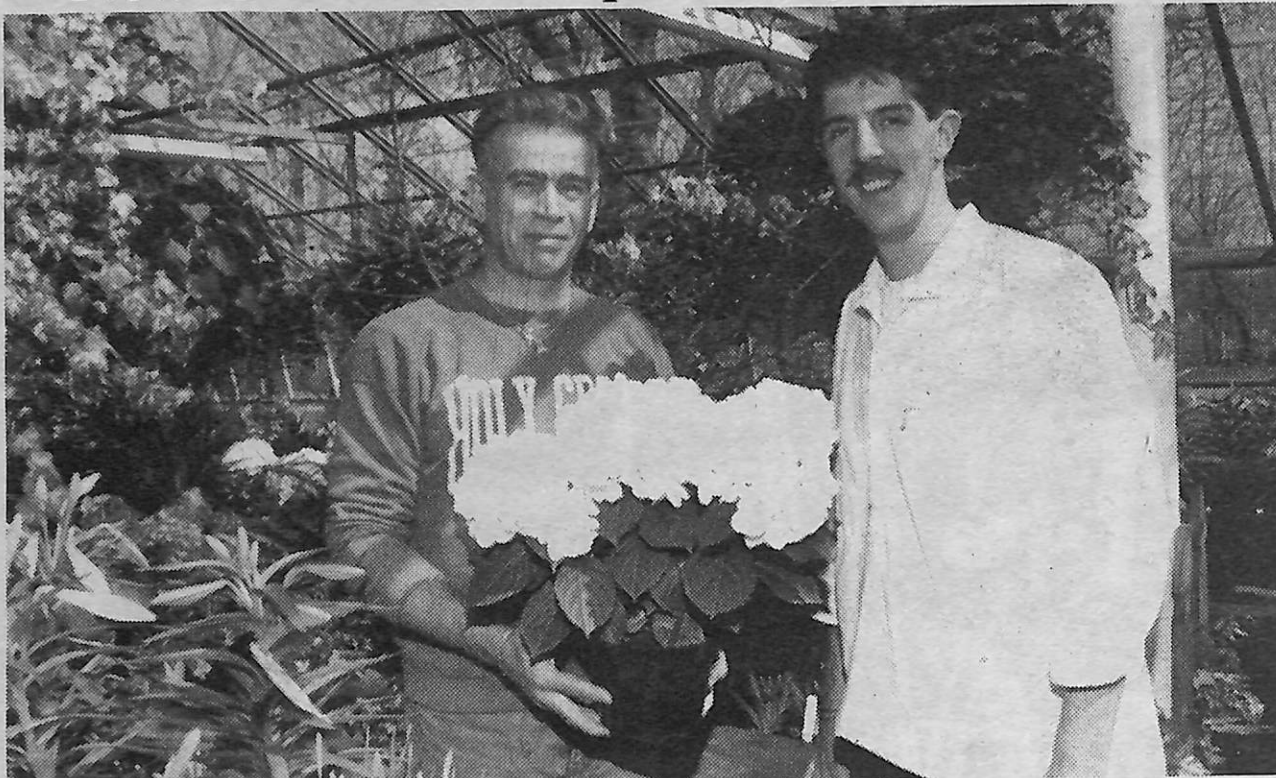
Expenses will fall into two broad categories: fixed (such as mortgage or rent, life and health insurance premiums and car payments) and variable (which is just about everything else). Variable expenses, such as what you spend on entertainment or on grocery shopping, for example, can change from one month to the next.

When you have listed all your income and expenses, go over the figures again to see if you've missed anything. Next, put essential spending such as housing, groceries, and insurance in one column, and discretionary spending such as entertainment and clothing in another.

Your task now is to analyze your cash flow: Are you spending more than you get? How have you been spending your money, and is this the way to spend it? Are there any areas where you might be spending more than you want or than is justified?

SEE FINANCIAL PLANNING - Page 25...

New Greenhouse Opened By Flower Shop



FLORAL CONCEPTS BY TOM, located on Walnut Street (the former Keefe Florists), has opened the adjacent greenhouse to further expand the business. An Open House was held on Sunday, March 27th. **IN TOP PHOTO**, Dennis Librers (left) and owner Tom Fredette are pictured inside the greenhouse; **IN PHOTO BELOW**, Tom Fredette welcomes patrons to browse through the new greenhouse. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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FD AD 1

Spotlight On Business - continued...



NORA MARKS (left) and KATHY ROSE were recently honored by Molta Real Estate for outstanding performances in a listing contest.

Molta Real Estate Recognizes Two For Outstanding Work

Congratulations to Kathy Rose and Nora Marks for their outstanding performances in a listing contest recently held by Molta Real Estate, Inc. Kathy Rose is associated with the Agawam office, and Nora Marks is with the Southwick office.

The competitive spirit of these two veteran agents resulted in a tie for obtaining the most new listings in a two-month period. Because of their knowledge of the real estate market and their energy in servicing their clients, these two agents have consistently been two of the top producers for Molta Real Estate, Inc.

FINANCIAL HELP - from Page 24...

You may need to consider cutting back in some areas. Perhaps this will mean eating out less often, spending less on prepared foods or making do with new accessories rather than buying complete outfits. You also may be paying more than necessary for some things. Get quotes on auto insurance, for example, or check to see if your deductibles can be increased.

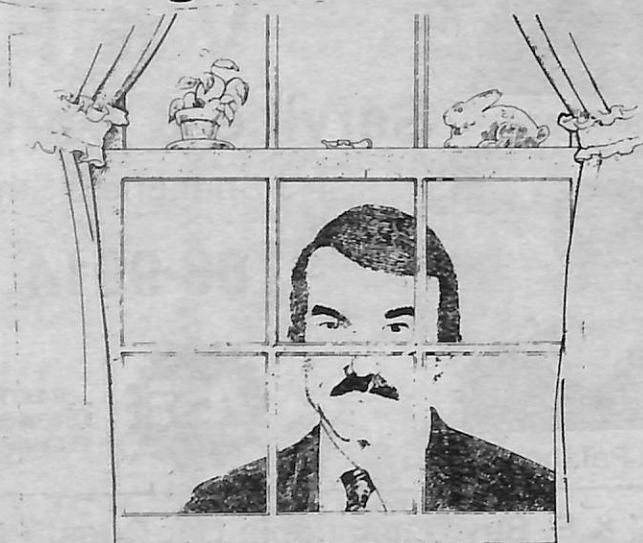
Cutting back on certain expenses is the first step in freeing up more money to pay off debts or to save for retirement or other long-term financial goals. It might take several months of fine-tuning to determine what allocation of funds works best for you.

There may be other areas in which you can save money without feeling a pinch. A financial planner is a good resource person for providing cost-saving tips, determining how to work within your means and helping to set financial priorities and goals.

To receive further information or if you would like to arrange a free 30-minute consultation, please contact me at my office, 534-3883.

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But vinyl windows are only part of the picture. We also install wood replacement windows, steel doors, decks, insulation and vinyl siding. We've been doing business in the Agawam area for over twenty-three years, and our quality and craftsmanship show through in every job we do.

Home improvements by the Charest Company are engineered to beautify your home and lower energy and maintenance costs. All this while increasing the value of your home.

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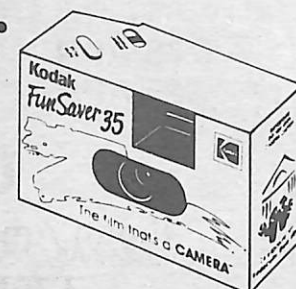
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Spotlight On Business - continued...**Stearns & Yerrall Associates Complete Realtor Sales Course**

George R. Yerrall IV, President of Stearns and Yerrall Realtors, Inc., has announced that 24 associates of the company recently completed Course RS207, "Sales & Marketing Strategy."

Those attending include Beth Curto, Co-Manager of the Longmeadow office; Ann Turnberg, Assistant Manager of the Longmeadow office; Mary Noone, Manager of the Springfield office; Barbara Flebotte, Assistant Manager of the Springfield office; and Mary Leahey, Assistant Manager of the Wilbraham office.

Associates also attending include Roberta Ashe, Bettye Bradley, Dorothy Dineen, Punky Roger, and Barbara Vaughn, all of the Longmeadow office; Mary Beth Oakley of the Springfield office; Ellen Davenport, Kathleen Foss, Sherry Jack, Diane Kochanek, Sherry Levine, Pamela Mitchell, Frank Sedzikowski, Rosalind Scheffer, Jackie Spillner, and Muriel Wilk of the Wilbraham office; and Anne Kelly, Mary Piquette, and Nancy Shiel of the Agawam office.

The course is one of the registered educational sequences that must be taken by real estate sales agents in the program that will qualify them for the prestigious Certified Residential Specialist (CRS) designation.

Interstate Bldg. Supply To Open Wedding Registry & Gift Loft

Southwick: Interstate Building Supply announces the Grand Opening of the Wedding Registry and Gift Loft on the mezzanine level of the Southwick store at 635 College Highway. The opening celebration will be held on Sunday, April 10th from noon until 4:00 p.m.

Gift selections include small appliances, stemware, china, flatware and kitchenware. Gift certificates are also available.

Lung Association Honors Kenny Rogers Rest.

THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION, represented by Frank J. Capuano (left), president, and Mario J. Sakellis, executive director (right), present a plaque of appreciation to Harry Grossman, director of operations for the new Kenny Rogers Roasters in the Foodmart Shopping Plaza. Kenny Rogers Roasters is a smoke free restaurant. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Selections for the registry are not limited to Gift Loft items only, but may include merchandise throughout the store. Along with the traditional gift items, the bride and groom can register for gardening supplies, tools, do-it-yourself items, bathroom fixtures, and even building supplies.

Personal shopping assistance will be available and visitors to the Wedding Registry are encouraged to call and make an appointment for

this service, which is free-of-charge.

"People sometimes find it difficult to select just the right wedding or shower gift, even if the couple have registered, so we are offering this service to their friends and relatives to eliminate the confusion," said Massarelli.

The grand opening of the Wedding Registry and Gift Loft is free and open to the public. Gift wrapping is available free of charge on most items.

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For Your Health



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Eating Breakfast May Help Prevent Heart Attacks

Many heart attacks happen within a few hours after the victim wakes up in the morning. Why? Researchers suspect one reason may be because people skip breakfast.

Cardiologists at Memorial University in Newfoundland discovered that skipping breakfast nearly triples your chances of forming blood clots. Blood clots can block the flow of blood and lead to a heart attack or stroke.

The stickiness of your blood platelets (the discs in your blood) is lowest during the night. In the morning, blood platelets become very sticky. But, for an unknown reason, eating helps to "unstuck" platelets.

In one study, researchers looked at the potential for blood clotting in 29 people on days they ate breakfast and compared them to days they

skipped breakfast. On "no breakfast" days, the clotting potential was 2½ times higher than on the breakfast days.

This research doesn't give you a ticket to start your day with bacon and eggs. Keep your breakfast low in fat and high in fiber with whole grain cereals, breads, or bagels.

If you don't like breakfast foods, feel free to have lunch and dinner foods to jump start your day. Sandwich, pasta, or leftovers can make a nutritious lowfat breakfast and keep you from promoting a morning heart attack.

One way to have breakfast—

Nancy Dell's Nearly Fat Free Bran Muffins

- 2 eggs
- ½ cup sugar
- ¼ cup molasses
- ¼ cup honey
- ¾ cup skim milk
- ¼ cup fat free yogurt (vanilla or plain)
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- ¾ cup whole wheat flour
- ¾ cup white flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2½ teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
- 2 cups crushed bran cereal
- 1 cup raisins (optional)

Mix first seven ingredients. In small bowl, sift flours, baking powder, baking soda, and spice. Add to liquid mixture. Stir in cereal & raisins.

Fill greased or papered muffin tin cups. Bake at 400° for 20 minutes.

Makes 12. 142 calories. 1 gram of fat.

Women's Health Part Of Program At Providence Hosp.

Providence Hospital's Health and Human Services Division will sponsor a program entitled "Women's Health and Substance Abuse" to increase awareness of the special nature of women's substance abuse problems and treatment needs.

The program will be held on April 12th from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. in the hospital auditorium.

The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. has designated April as Alcohol Awareness Month to focus attention on America's number one, but often overlooked, drug problem.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Bureau of Substance Abuse has also given the theme of "Embracing a Vision of Women's Health: Dreams, Themes, and Imperatives" to its 1994 Women's Alcohol and Drug Awareness campaign.

Karen L. Jacobus, M.Ed., coordinator of health education at Mount Holyoke College, will be the guest speaker. Jacobus will explore the specific issues facing women with alcohol and other drug problems and their related health concerns.

"With more than five million women affected by alcoholism in the United States, it is imperative that the community receives accurate information on this disease," Jacobus said, citing guilt, stigma, low self-esteem, higher incidence of family violence and suicide, and an increased risk of contracting the HIV virus as some of the major concerns facing alcoholic women.

Jacobus has been working in the field of alcohol and drug education for 17 years. Prior to her position at Mount Holyoke College, she was the coordinator of the Drug and Alcohol Education Programs at Hampshire College and the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

Pre-registration is required for this free program. To register, call Karen Walsh Pio at 535-1000.

Noble Hospital Has Diabetes Support

Noble Hospital will host a diabetes support group led by Barbara Agard, R.N., C.D.E. on Thursday, April 21st, at 10:00 a.m. in the Noble Hospital Auditorium A.

Barbara Agard is a certified diabetes educator and works with diabetic patients on a consultation basis at Noble Hospital.

Registration is not required. For more information, please call Noble's Healthbeat, 568-BEAT (2328).

Support Group For Mothers Of Kids That Were Abused

The Agawam Counseling Center has several openings in its support group for mothers of children who have been sexually abused. This is a group for those who would like some support in dealing with this very difficult situation and all that it brings up for them.

The group is designed to be a safe place for parents to express their feelings about what has been done to their children, to learn that they are not alone, to gain support in dealing with behavior problems, the aftermath of abuse, and the legal system.

The group meets Monday evenings from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. There is childcare available at the cost of \$3 per child. The Agawam Counseling Center accepts Medicaid and most insurance, and has a sliding scale fee.

For more information, contact Nancy Jessup, LICSW, at 786-6410.

Ag. Counseling Center Offers After-School Group For Girls

The Agawam Counseling Center has several openings in its after-school group for girls ages 11 to 13. This group provides an opportunity for girls to have fun, make new friends, talk about problems in a safe atmosphere, and get peer support.

The group is appropriate for girls with adjustment difficulties, problems with peer relationships, or learning disabilities. This group has been ongoing for two years and has been successful in boosting self-esteem, improving social skills, and providing an outlet for girls to express themselves about concerns they may have.

The group meets Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. The Agawam Counseling Center accepts Medicaid and most insurance (the group is free for those who have no insurance).

If you have any questions or would like to make an appointment for a screening interview, please call Nancy Jessup at 786-6410.

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* Membership & contract commitment is required. Call for details. • ID & First visit not included.

For Your Health - continued...

Baystate Medical Ctr. Offers Support Groups During Month Of April

Baystate Medical Center will offer the following support groups planned throughout April:

* **Depression After Delivery Support Group** - April 13th, 7:00 p.m., Chicopee/Agawam Room of the Centennial Building, free. Call Parent Education at 784-BABY (2229).

* **Diabetes Support Group** (this month in conjunction with Insulin Pump Support Group) - April 19th, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Chicopee/Agawam Room of the Centennial Building, free. April topic: "Stress and Chronic Disease," with Dianne Baker, R.N., of Baystate's Psychiatric Consult Service. For more information, call 784-4364.

* **Insulin Pump Support Group** (this month in conjunction with Diabetes Support Group) - April 19th, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Chicopee/Agawam Room of the Centennial Building, free. For more information, call 784-5789.

* **Better Breathers Support Group** - April 12th, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Executive Offices Meeting Room, free. April topic: "Vacation Planning with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease." For more information, call 784-4442.

Exercises Provided For Heart Attack Survivors

Diane Mackler, a cardio-rehab nurse from Providence Hospital, will review necessary exercises and activities for heart attack survivors, April 13th at 2:00 p.m., at Heritage Hall Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 55 Cooper Street, Agawam. The community is welcome to attend and refreshments will be served.

Call Regina Bossig at 786-8000, ext. 251 to make your reservations.

Mobile Hearing Unit From Mercy Hospital Coming To Agawam

Mercy Hospital's Mobile Hearing Center will provide free hearing screenings and hearing aid checks at the Agawam Senior Center on Friday, April 15th and Friday, May 6th, both days at 9:00 a.m.

Full diagnostic hearing tests, evaluations, fittings, sales and service of hearing aids and assistive listening devices can also be scheduled, on a fee for service basis.

The hearing van's audiology equipment is operated by two nationally certified audiologists from the Hearing Center at Mercy Hospital.

For reservations, call 786-0400.

CPR Course At Noble

Noble Hospital will offer a public education program on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on Wednesday, April 20th and 27th at 6:30 p.m. in the Noble Hospital Education Center, 2 Mill Street, Westfield.

Participants must attend both classes. The program is \$30. For further information or to register, call (413) 568-2811, ext. 529.

best
local
news

Hypnotism Can Help To Quit Smoking; Call Noble Hospital

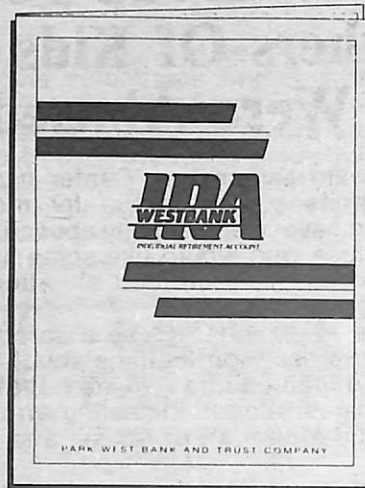
"Forgetting Cigarettes with Hypnotism" will be offered by the Education Department of Noble Hospital as a way to quit cigarette addiction.

The class will be facilitated by Joseph Barako, Director of Education at Noble Hospital, and will consist of two sessions to be held on Monday, April 18th and 25th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

The sessions will be held at the Education Center on 2 Mill Street, Westfield, adjacent to the hospital. The course fee is \$40.

For more information, please call the Education Department at Noble Hospital at 568-2811, ext. 529.

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Preface

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The Westfield Theatre Group Presents...

BYE BYE



A MUSICAL COMEDY

BOOK BY MICHAEL STEWART • MUSIC BY CHARLES STROUSE • LYRICS BY LEE ADAMS

DIRECTED BY BOB LAVIOLETTE

APRIL 15^{BENEFIT}, 16, 22, 23, 29 & 30
AT THE WESTFIELD WOMAN'S CLUB
28 COURT ST., ONE BLOCK OFF WESTFIELD COMMON
Evening Curtain 8 p.m. All Show Dates
Plus! Saturday Matinees April 23 & 30, 2 p.m.
Refreshments Available

Tickets: \$10.00 General Admission, \$8.00 Students & Seniors

*Performance To Benefit The WESTFIELD AREA MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC, INC. Tickets For April 15 Performance Available By Calling 568-1421

Reservations For All Other Performances Available By Calling 572-6838

Box Office Will Be Open For Ticket Pickup Mon-Thurs 7:30 pm Beginning Feb. 28th

The Westfield Theatre Group Is A Division Of The Westfield Woman's Club



Arts

Sightings Of Elvis In Westfield? Can It Be Possible???

There have been rumors of Elvis sightings and suspicious '50's style rock and roll music heard at the Westfield Theatre Group rehearsals at the Westfield Women's Club at 28 Court Street, Westfield.

It was not Elvis sighted, however, but Conrad Birdie (portrayed by Brad Thayer) from the hit musical comedy "Bye Bye Birdie." Set in the 1950's, the musical opens with the news that rock and roll star, Conrad Birdie, has been drafted into the army. As a promotional stunt, he visits a small town in Ohio to bestow "one last kiss" on a teenage member of his fan club, Kim MacAfee (Jackie Buzzee).

"Everyone assumes the Conrad Birdie character is based on Elvis," explains director, Bob Laviolette of Belchertown, "but the authors insist that they actually based Conrad on the late Conway Twitty, who started his career as a rock and roll singer.

"Bye Bye Birdie" was originally a hit on Broadway starring Dick Van Dyke and recently enjoyed a successful revival starring Tommy Tune.

"Bye Bye Birdie" features such popular songs as "Put on a Happy Face," "Kids," "Ed Sullivan," and "Rosie." Musical direction for the Westfield Theatre Group production is provided by Karen Dion of Westfield, with choreography by Tamara Belczyk of Chicopee.

"Bye Bye Birdie" will be performed at the Westfield Woman's Club, 28 Court Street, Westfield on April 15th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd, 29th, and 30th at 8:00 p.m.

Westfield Theatre Group musicals usually sell out, so advance reservations are suggested. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults, \$8 for students and seniors. All seating is general admission.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at the box office, which is open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., checks preferred.

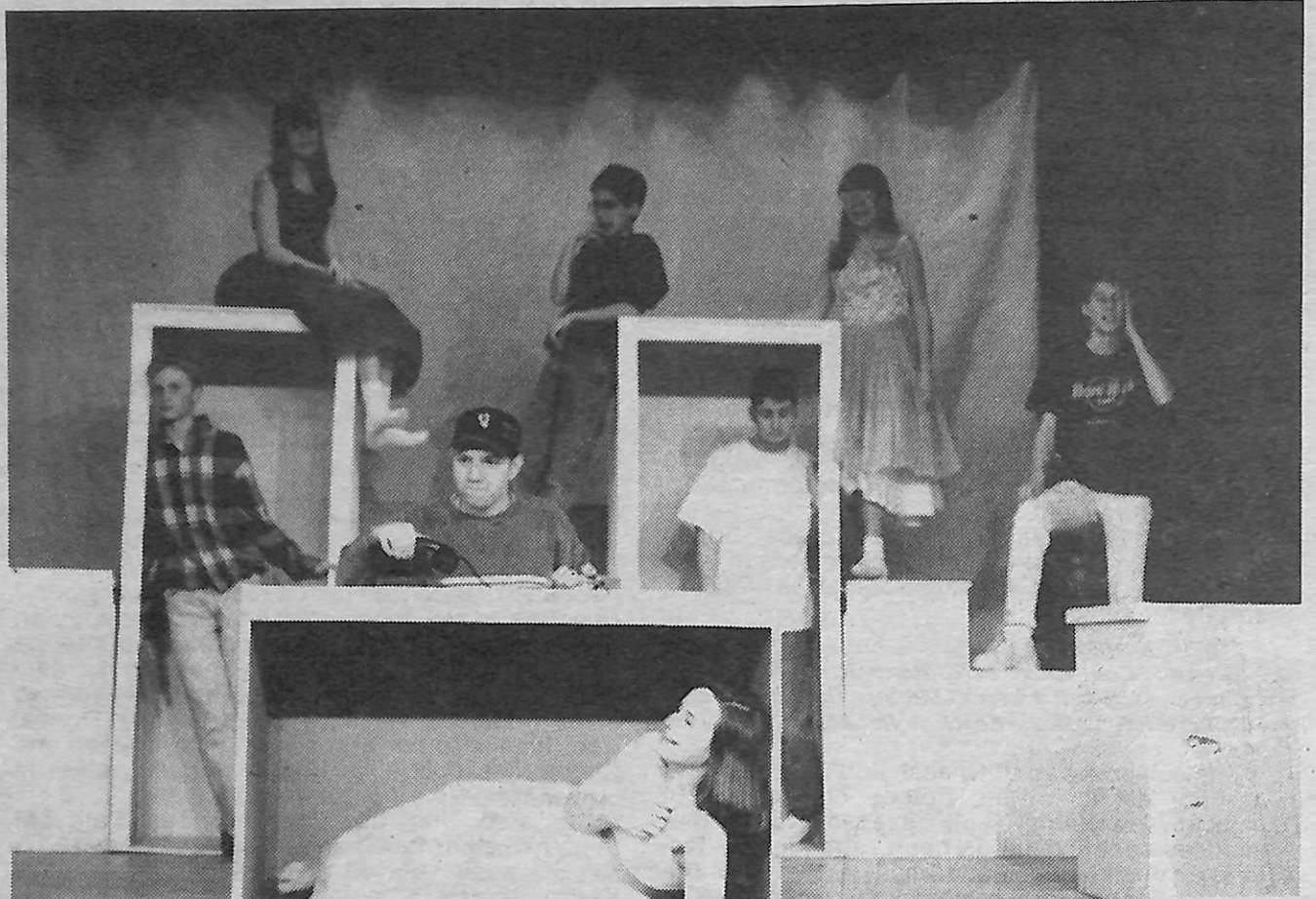
Mental Health Clinic To Sponsor Opening Night Of Local Musical

The Westfield Area Mental Health Clinic is sponsoring Opening Night of the Westfield Theatre Group's production of "Bye Bye Birdie" on Friday, April 15th, at 8:00 p.m. at the Westfield Woman's Club. This delightful musical has loads of appeal for folks of all ages. ("Baby boomers," in particular, are urged to prepare themselves for a nostalgic trip back to the 60's!)

The Westfield Theatre Group is known for its consistently outstanding performances, so you can count on an entertaining evening; at the same time, your purchase of tickets will benefit the programs of the Westfield Area Mental Health Clinic. Tickets are priced at \$12.50 for Clinic "Friends," and \$18 for Clinic "Benefactors."

Benefactors are invited to a champagne reception following the performance. Many of the cast will be present for this reception, so don't miss this opportunity to mingle!

For tickets and further information, please call 568-1421.



REHEARSING FOR "Bye Bye Birdie" are Westfield Theatre Group members, clockwise: Greg Vassos, Janine Laviolette, Steve Sands, Jr., Mike Buzzee, Luke Leary, Kristen Chipman, Bill Wood, and Bridget Hatch (in the box).



BRAD THAYER (center) surrounded by fans Amber Daniels, Leigh Figg, Bridget Hatch, and Kristen Chipman.

Kim Saffer's Artwork Now On Exhibit At Agawam Post Office

The Agawam Community Artists are proud to announce that Ms. Kim Saffer, a multi-medium artist, will be exhibiting her artwork at the Agawam Post Office during the month of April.

If anyone is interested in the Agawam Community Artists or the above artist, they are encouraged to contact Beverly Secondo-Wands at 786-0138 or DeBorah A. Allen at 786-6087.

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Pisano's Picks...

ON VIDEO

by Louis Pisano

Cheesy Chums... Cheech And Chong

This popular (but cheesy) comedy duo of the 70's created a wacky film series that managed to show drugs as what they are while presenting good themes about comradery, determination, and human respect.

Their idiotic mentality from drugs brings themselves and you to places you're sure to have never gone before! Prepare yourselves, folks ... strictly for adults only!

* *Up In Smoke*

Director: Lou Adler. 1978. Rated R. 1 hour and 27 minutes. Starring: Cheech Marin, Thomas Chong, Strother Martin, Stacy Keach, Edie Adams, and Tom Skerritt.

The comedic duo of Cheech and Chong makes its film debut in this riotous comedy about basically everything. You'll be taken on a trip that includes such events as court, a marijuana factory, a "dope house," and finally a "battle of the bands" concert. All of this action begins with Chong's theme "Up In Smoke" and Cheech's theme "Low Rider," both perfectly fitting for their respective roles as "Man" and Pedro.

I firmly stress that this film, as well as the sequels I will discuss, are strictly for adults. The duo's drug-laced comedy is not suitable for our youth. Those who will enjoy *Up In Smoke* are those who vividly recall the carefree drug attitude of the late 70's and early 80's.

The film does not glorify drugs (which is an attribute of the film that I respect), but simply presents them as what they are. However, we follow two off-kilter characters who DO get into trouble.

It is the lighthearted approach that makes the film respectable. Believe it or not, there are prevalent themes such as loyalty among friends and determination for success that stand out in this film.

Stacy Keach almost steals top-billing from Cheech and Chong with his wacky portrayal of Sergeant Stedenko, a law enforcement official obsessed with ending drug smuggling into the country from Mexico. Also, look for Tom Skerritt as Strawberry, a Vietnam veteran who deals drugs in the film.

Up In Smoke is a surprisingly entertaining film for adults only. Once you watch it, you'll be itching for more. And...

Cheech and Chong (probably to avoid being held responsible for anything they might have done in the first film). We also meet one of Pedro's/Cheech's women—Donna (played by Evelyn Guerrero), a girl he's obsessed with.

There are many visually satisfying scenes in this film, such as the neighbor of Cheech and Chong (a perfectionistic man with a perfect home in the middle of a slum) and Pee-Wee Herman's portrayal of a nerdy hotel desk clerk.

This film succeeds as did *Up In Smoke* in achieving its goal, with its goal being to mesmerize the audience by taking them on some crazy trips.

If you liked the first, you'll like the second. It's still for adults only, but sometimes that makes a movie that much more fun. **3½ STARS.** (Mature audiences only - 18 years and up.)

* *Nice Dreams*

Director: Thomas Chong. 1981. Rated R. 1 hour and 27 minutes. Starring: Richard "Cheech" Marin, Thomas Chong, Evelyn Guerrero, Pee-Wee Herman, and Stacy Keach.

Cheech and Chong have now made an enterprise of selling drugs. They disguise their operation as an "Ice Creams" truck that appears to have been vandalized to now read "Nice Dreams." Needless to say, their popsicles are quite popular.

Nice Dreams bring the now-popular duo into the 80's. They begin to focus their attention more intently on the band Alice Bowie that they formed in *Up In Smoke*. We again meet up with Donna, who (thanks to her association with Cheech and Chong) has now gone from a welfare worker in ...Next Movie to a floozie in *Nice Dreams*.

We also find that the infamous Sergeant Stedenko, the memorable character from *Up In Smoke* (again played to perfection by Stacy Keach), is now a "pothead," a direct of his first "stoning" in the first film which occurred by accident. And, Pee-Wee Herman returns for another silver screen appearance, this time as an inmate at an insane asylum.

This film plays as a worthy sequel to the first films and also carries on the tradition that sequels should follow the same character. *Nice Dreams* is a "nice dream" indeed. **3½ STARS.** (18 years and up.)

* *Things Are Tough All Over*

Director: Tom Avildsen. 1982. Rated R. 1 hour and 32 minutes. Starring: Richard "Cheech" Marin, Thomas Chong, Rikki Marin, and Rip Taylor.

This is the film that finds our characters transporting a car to Las Vegas and being pursued by ruthless foreigners. The film fits in the series well and consists of the same type of plot transitions and character development that made the first three films successful.

Returning Evelyn Guerrero has a cameo as the memorable Donna, who is now a hippie/hermit in the desert. She has definitely become slightly unbalanced since our first encounter with her in ...Next Movie.

Things Are Tough All Over takes a different approach to storytelling in that Cheech narrates. This proves quite effective. The film isn't the best of the series, but it does belong in the series for sure. **3 STARS.** (18 years and up.)

WRITER'S POSTSCRIPT: Following *Things Are Tough All Over* came *Cheech And Chong: Still Smokin'*, which is difficult to call a sequel to these films. Check it out and decide for yourself; if it is definitely the weakest of them all. **2 STARS.** (Mature audiences - 18 years and up.)

Also from Cheech and Chong: *The Corsican* (1984) and *Get Out Of My Room* (1995).

The Best Of Broadway To Come To Spfld. Symphony Hall

On Saturday, April 16th, at 8:00 p.m., the Springfield Symphony Orchestra invites you to a night of Broadway's best. "Bravo Broadway" features some of Broadway's biggest stars and best songs. Guest Conductor Peter Cokkinias will lead the orchestra through a program of favorites by the likes of Porter, Bernstein, and Lloyd Webber accompanied by members of the casts of *Les Miserables*, *Miss Saigon*, and *The Phantom of the Opera*.

Tenor Michael Maguire, soprano Kam Cheng, and baritone Keith Buterbaugh will perform some of Broadway's most popular songs from shows such as *My Fair Lady*, *West Side Story*, *South Pacific*, *The King and I*, *Les Miserables*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, and *Oklahoma*. The evening is sure to be a delight for all, combining pops favorites with hits of the stage.

Michael Maguire is well-known for his portrayal of Enjolras in the original Broadway company of *Les Miserables*. He not only won the Tony Award for that role, but also a Drama Desk Award and a Theater World Award. He has been a featured soloist at Carnegie Hall, Town Hall, and Alice Tully Hall. Maguire also has an active acting career, having been seen in the film *Where The Day Takes You* and as a guest star on *Quantum Leap* and *Hearts Afire*.

Soprano Kam Cheng was the first American to play the title role in the original Broadway cast of *Miss Saigon*. She has been cast in roles as varied as Despinas in Mozart's *Così Fan Tutte* and Minnie Fay in *Hello Dolly*. Cheng also had the opportunity to perform with Stockard Channing, Tyne Daly, and Bernadette Peters in a benefit for the Manhattan Theater Club.

Baritone Keith Buterbaugh has performed on Broadway and in the National Tour of *The Phantom of the Opera* as both the Phantom and Raoul. He also sang the part of the Phantom in a special presentation at the White House in 1991. Buterbaugh has performed with many different music organizations and on television in both Europe and the United States. Anne Brennan of the *Cape Cod Times* wrote, "A skillful singer, Buterbaugh's voice is so rich in tone. He also carried a great stage presence that demands attention."

Peter Cokkinias will conduct the "Bravo Broadway" concert. Music Director of the Greater Marlborough Symphony Orchestra, Cokkinias has had a distinguished conducting career. He is on the faculties of both the Boston Conservatory and the Berklee College of Music as a professor of both conducting and clarinet. Cokkinias is a former Conductor of the Western Mass Youth Orchestra of which he was also a member, and often performs with the SSO during the season.

Tickets for "Bravo Broadway" may be purchased through the SSO Box Office, located at 75 Market Place in downtown Springfield (behind Johnson's Bookstore), or by calling the Box Office at 733-2291. Tickets range in price from \$5 to \$31. Limited seating available.

"Bravo Broadway" is sponsored by Fleet Bank. All concerts of the SSO are funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Business Friends of the Arts.

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Annual Cat Show At BIG E April 9-10

Cat-lovers of all ages who were "snowed out" of last year's first annual cat show in West Springfield will get a second chance to see some of the world's rarest felines up-close and personal this Saturday and Sunday, April 9th and 10th, at GeneTICats' Spring Cat Extravaganza at the Eastern States Exposition fairgrounds on Memorial Avenue.

Longhaired, shorthaired, curly-haired, hairless, bushy-tailed, tailless, short-legged, curly-eared, folded-eared, blue-eyed, spotted, striped, very big, and very small felines—hundreds in all—will compete for top prizes in 12 rings.

The show, sponsored by Iams Pet Foods and sanctioned by The International Cat Association (TICA), will bring feline experts from across the country and as far away as Paris, Montreal, and Venezuela to evaluate each entry.

Despite 1993's "blizzard of the decade" that closed highways and airports throughout the Northeast the weekend of last year's show, more than 1,500 spectators braved the elements to attend.

This year, GeneTICats Cat Club has moved to a roomier show hall. Under the roof of the Big E's New England Center, 20-plus vendors will be on hand both days, offering everything for sale for cats (from cat toys and cat trees and cat condos to cats' cradles and cats' pajamas) and their humans (from one-of-a-kind jewelry and scarves to designer sweats and handbags).

Pet pastel portraitist Barkat Curtin of New York will be there to do your cat's portrait from a photograph. Airbrush artist Margaret Reger is coming from Arkansas (home of First Cat Sox) to replicate your cat's likeness on denim and leather jackets, t-shirts, and sweatshirts. Photographer Isabelle Francais of New York City, whose work regularly appears in *Cat Fancy Magazine*, is serving as the show's photographer.

If you've always wanted one of those six-foot carpeted cat trees, this is your chance to buy one at substantial savings without having to pay for shipping and handling. Iams Co. will offer free samples and discount coupons, and Dave's Soda and Pet Food City will offer special savings.

Non-profit shelter volunteers will be at the show again this year, looking for loving, permanent homes for abandoned and rescued cats and kittens. At last year's show, 16 adult cats found families to adopt and love them.

To prove how generous cats can be, they've invited a group of retired racing greyhounds, so dog-lovers attending the show will have someone to schmooze with!

Back by popular demand will be the largest group of Bengal cats in the Northeast. Bengals, whose ancestors several generations ago were crossed with the tiny Asian Leopard Cat, have shimmering, metallic-looking coats and wild-looking spots. Two new colors—marble and snow leopard—will be featured this year.

The show will also feature the world's largest gathering of Munchkins, America's newest (and rarest) breed. Last year, the short-legged domestic cats, which resemble ferrets in build, were show-stoppers. The Munchkins recently returned from Madison Square Garden, where they met and charmed thousands of cat-lovers, and were featured on CNN, NBC, Turner Broadcasting, and in *USA Today*. Fewer than 150 of the agile, acrobatic, and swift-moving Munchkin cats and kittens exist.

The show will also feature the Siberian Cat, a dense-coated, longhaired shaggy beauty imported from Russia. Long recognized behind the Iron Curtain, the Siberian Cat is just beginning to come into its own in the United States.

Please remember that Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice before he will cover your event.

Silver Abyssinians, newly recognized by TICA, are also entered. The Silver Aby, cultivated between 1900 and World War II in Great Britain, had all but died out until dedicated breeders revived the line a few years ago.

Also recognized will be the Singapura, the world's smallest cat. Adult Singapura females weigh between three and four pounds and have big, expressive eyes. With their wiry, muscular builds and short, ticked coats, they look like miniature mountain lions.

The Ojos Azules, a rare breed of blue-eyed cat, will be on exhibition. Ojos Azules were discovered in the Albuquerque, New Mexico dog pound by Annie Gass, who now lives in Springfield.

Long-haired Scottish folds (cats that look like loving Teddy bears) and elegant American Curls (cats with lovely ears that curl delicately backwards) are also entered, along with hairless

Sphynx, chocolate- and cinnamon-spotted Ocicats, American shorthairs, and the long-time favorite Persians and Siamese.

Dozens of other breeds, including Devon, Cornish, and Selkirk Rex, Maine Coons, Norwegian Forest Cats, Russian Blues, Oriental Shorthairs, tailless Manx, Burmese, and Tonkinese will also be on display.

Dr. Solveig M.V. Pflueger, chief of medical genetics at Baystate Medical Center and chairman of TICA's Genetics Committee, will narrate a Parade of Breeds, Saturday and Sunday, demonstrating the characteristics of differences among the myriad of different breeds.

Show hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days. Refreshments will be available. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$5 for seniors and children under 12.

Discount coupons are available at Dave's in Agawam, Springfield, and Hadley.

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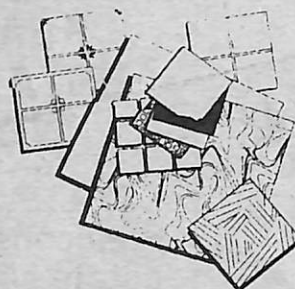
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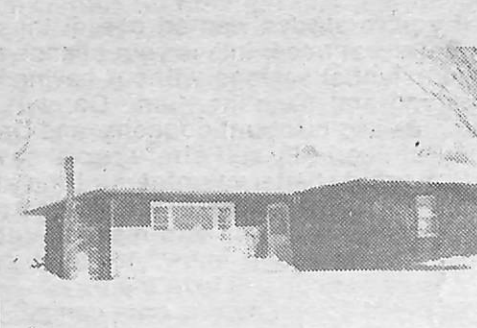
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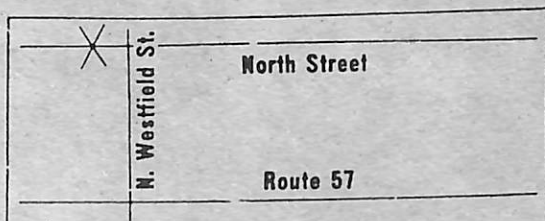
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Hilltop Players Postpone "Oliver" Debut For One Week At Red Door Theatre In F.H.

Due to an unfortunate circumstance, The Hilltop Players have been forced to postpone their production of "Oliver" one weekend. The newest of the area's community theatre groups has moved its opening from Friday, April 8th, to Friday, April 15th, and the run is now scheduled for April 15th, 16th, 22nd, and 23rd at 7:30 p.m., and a 2:00 p.m. matinee performance for Sunday, April 17th.

Directed by award-winning actor/directors Margie Secora and Lyle Pearsons, "Oliver" will be performed at The Red Door Theatre, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA, atop the hill next to the Valley Community Church.

The 28-member cast includes veterans of the community theatre stage as well as many new faces, including three families. The players hail from area towns in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut and include the Morell family (Linda, Larry, and daughters Audra and Adrienne) of Westfield; the Randzio family (Debbie, Al, Jesse, and Kassia) of Southwick; and the Descy family (Andy, William, and Fred) from Granby.

From Suffield hail the Allen children—Mickey, Austin, and Emily—along with Amy Modzelesky, Cheryl Baldyga, Nicole Messmer, Leanne Crowley, and Ed Gogulski as the villain Bill Sikes. Also from Connecticut are sisters Betsy and Sara Ingraham of Enfield.

Agawam residents include John Stacy, Scott Belisle, Justine Craven, and John Mullins of Feeding Hills. Rounding out the cast is Mariah Stratner of Springfield, Shirley MacDonald of Easthampton, Jeff Tingley of Southwick, Liz Kelly of Granby, and Corey Lagunowich of Hamden in the title role of Oliver.

Secora and Pearsons will assume the roles of Nancy and Fagin, respectively, in this lively family musical based on Dickens' classic novel of a young boy's street life adventures in London.

Margie's daughter, Marcy Secora, will be musical accompanist, and Alison Crowley, Dee Gee Blackman, and Andy Descy will assist backstage with stage managerial duties.

In the lighting booth will be Zbig Lewantowicz and Heather Secora.

Set design and construction has been handled by Lyle and Dale Pearsons and several cast members, while costumes have been created by Secora and costumers Sue Pearsons, Diane Pearsons, and Dot Wells.

Tickets at only \$5 each are moving quickly, and reservations may still be made by calling (413) 789-2026. Please leave a message on the ticket answering service, and a member of The Hilltop Players will return your call to confirm your reservation.



"FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD" sing the young vagabonds of Fagin's den in The Hilltop Players' upcoming musical "Oliver," which will be presented at The Red Door Theatre, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills. Pictured above from front to back (l-r): Kassia Randzio, Will Descy, Sara Ingraham, Fred Descy, Emily Allen, Austin Allen, Leanne Crowley, and Corey Lagunowich as "Oliver."

Arts Council To Sponsor Appraisal Day, April 30th

Suffield: The Suffield Council for the Arts is hosting its second Antiques Appraisal Day on Saturday, April 30th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Oral appraisals of items will be given at Kent Memorial Library on Main Street.

There will be a \$3 donation per item, with a maximum of three items. A suggested donation for coins is \$1 per coin, with a maximum of 12. Items eligible for appraisal are jewelry, watches, costume jewelry, coins, glass, china, European porcelain, paintings, and other collectibles.

There will be no sales on the premises.

For more information, please call Celeste Cannon at 668-5943.

Agawam Residents Invited To Enjoy "Nunsense" At St. Mary's High School

When most people think of nuns, the first word that springs to mind is not usually "funny." However, a few minds will be changed this Friday and Saturday, April 7th and 8th, with the Saint Mary's High School production of *Nunsense 2 - the Second Coming*.

"It's pretty hilarious," admits cast member Jillanne Szenda. "It's also irreverent and racy ... I won't deny we've raised a few eyebrows, but it brings up good points that shouldn't be overlooked."

Cast and crew alike have been working hard on this musical since January, and it looks to be another winner for the well-established thespians.

The story, written by Dan Goggin, centers around the Little Sisters of Hoboken, Inc. as they

handle a variety of challenges, from shady Franciscans to feminist issues, while trying to stage another benefit show, as in the original *Nunsense*.

Featured in the show are seniors Mary Boshier as the goofy Sr. Hubert, Sarahina Gamble as the physical education teacher from Brooklyn, and Shelley Lefebvre as the spacy Sr. Amnesia. Also featured are junior Jillanne Szenda as the Reverend Mother, and Kate Hall, sophomore, as Sr. Leo, aspiring nun/ballerina.

Tickets to this Broadway hit are \$5 for adults and \$3 for senior citizens and students. They can be purchased at the door, both Friday, April 7th and Saturday, April 8th.

Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. STM is located on Bartlett Street in Westfield. For more information, contact Tony Pioggi at 568-2388 or 584-1371.

PLEASE REMEMBER that Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call Jack at 789-0053.

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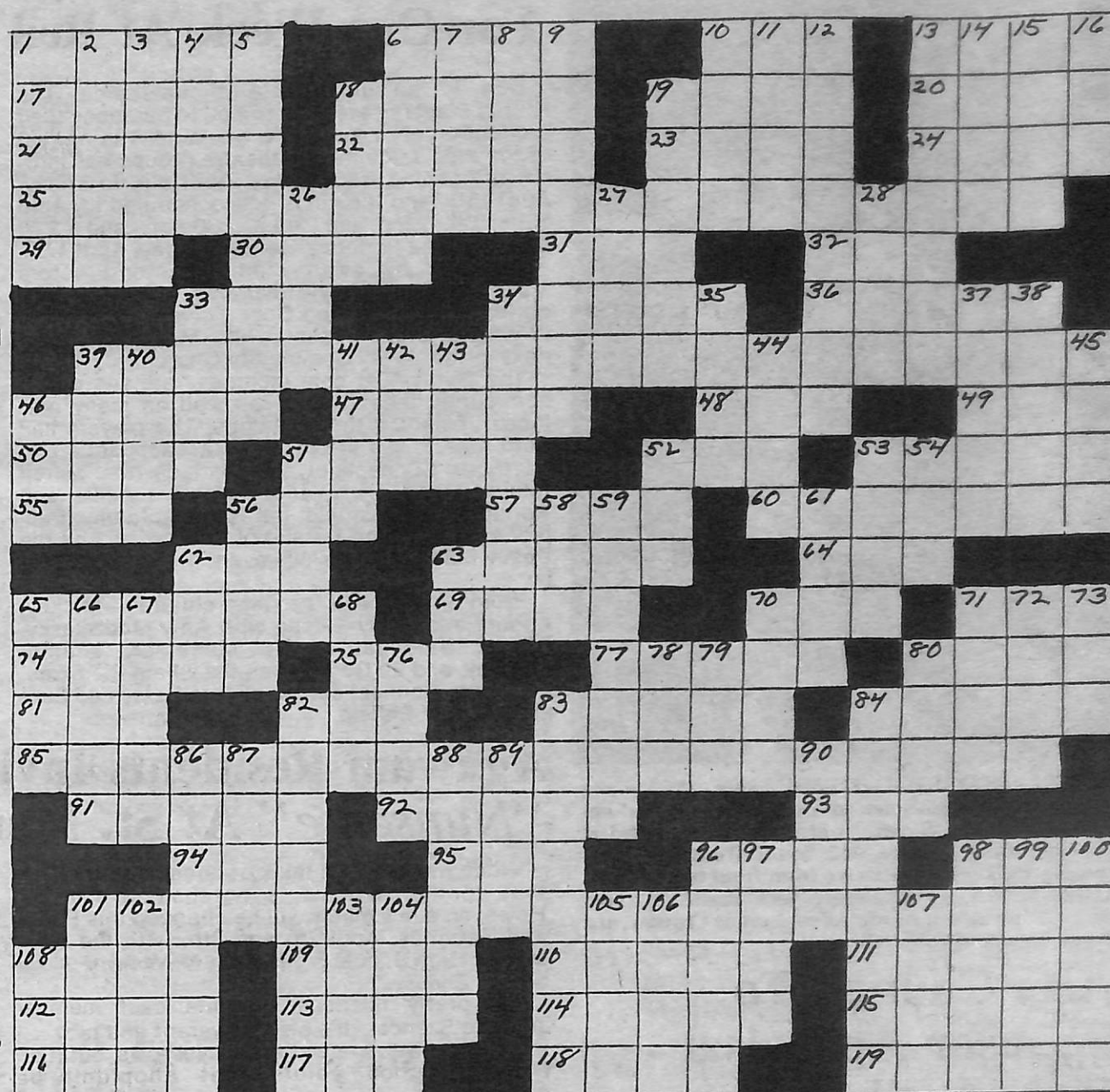
ACROSS

- 1 Mata Hari was one
- 6 "I — a rhapsody"
- 10 Word of comprehension
- 13 Early T.V. host
- 17 Impel
- 18 Cardinals' manager Joe
- 19 Syrian city
- 20 Pisa's river
- 21 Egged on
- 22 Seed coverings
- 23 Masher's retribution
- 24 Type of vegetable
- 25 Oscar winner as "Old Blood and Guts"
- 29 Matched pair
- 30 Garden tool
- 31 Part of S.A.M.
- 32 Use oars
- 33 "— Vegas"
- 34 Mr. T's group
- 36 Expunge
- 39 Gary plays a non-com
- 46 Code name
- 47 Pile up
- 48 Golfer Wall
- 49 B & O for one
- 50 "Dies —"
- 51 Embarrass
- 52 Greek letter
- 53 Actor Charlie
- 55 Solidify
- 56 Down's counterparts
- 57 Muddy up
- 60 Proverbs
- 62 "Exodus" hero
- 63 R.B.I. and E.R.A.
- 64 Devour
- 65 Salted wafer
- 69 Estimates for short
- 70 Cure leather
- 71 Arafat's org.
- 74 Often knocked?
- 75 New Deal work org.
- 77 "Forever" vamp
- 80 ESP person
- 81 Actress Merkel
- 82 Playwright's delight
- 83 Besmirch
- 84 In the lead
- 85 Texas hero in self-portrayal
- 91 Tenor Mario
- 92 "Drunk as —"
- 93 Cleo's killer
- 94 OPEC item
- 95 Blackbird
- 96 Indian tourist locale
- 98 Atlantic flyer
- 101 Swashbuckler plays a swashbuckler
- 108 Like the Gobi
- 109 Lamb pen name
- 110 Make welcome
- 111 Swiss Alp
- 112 Four-minute guest once
- 113 Ilk
- 114 Actor Richard et al
- 115 Nervous
- 116 Belgium river
- 117 Taxed item in 1770's
- 118 "— sit under the apple..."
- 119 Race

DOWN

- 1 Fake coinery
- 2 Tomato product
- 3 Gold bar
- 4 Rabbi Akiba
- 5 Catawba
- 6 Morgan is one
- 7 Severeid
- 8 A Guthrie
- 9 Reiterates
- 10 "— fair in love..."
- 11 Pile
- 12 Obvious
- 13 Meet in the middle
- 14 Kang follower
- 15 Shortly
- 16 Over-ripe result
- 18 Beat before the wind
- 19 "Limp —"
- 26 Repose
- 27 Row
- 28 Civil wrong
- 33 Come in second
- 34 States
- 35 Main course item
- 37 More lame
- 38 Went wrong
- 39 Central part
- 40 Type of exam
- 41 Cheers
- 42 Doctor's org.
- 43 Our Uncle
- 44 Semite
- 45 Recognizes (Dial.)
- 46 Russian fighter plane
- 51 Rotate
- 52 "Loop" trains
- 53 Long-necked bird
- 54 Warmer than warm
- 56 "Etats —"
- 58 Dobbin treat
- 59 "—, mad, mad —"
- 61 Part of a decade
- 62 Dined
- 63 Wall Street leash
- 65 Jaeger
- 66 Nullify
- 67 "— charmed life"
- 68 Beige
- 70 Actress Garr
- 71 Martini additive
- 72 Fall dropper
- 73 Calif. Fort
- 76 Mrs. Dithers
- 78 My (Fr.)
- 79 Before humbug
- 80 Bandsman Shep
- 82 Runt of the litter
- 83 Irrigated
- 84 Attacks
- 86 Proper (2 wds.)
- 87 Basso Pinza
- 88 Have fun (2 wds.)
- 89 Beep maker
- 90 Antony
- 96 Ten percenter
- 97 Guns in gangland
- 98 A "Rolling" one
- 99 Feel
- 100 Brought to bay
- 101 Goddess of discord
- 102 Anger
- 103 Iceberg
- 104 Tiber token
- 105 Jason's craft
- 106 Actor Penn
- 107 Ooze
- 108 A Carter

MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni

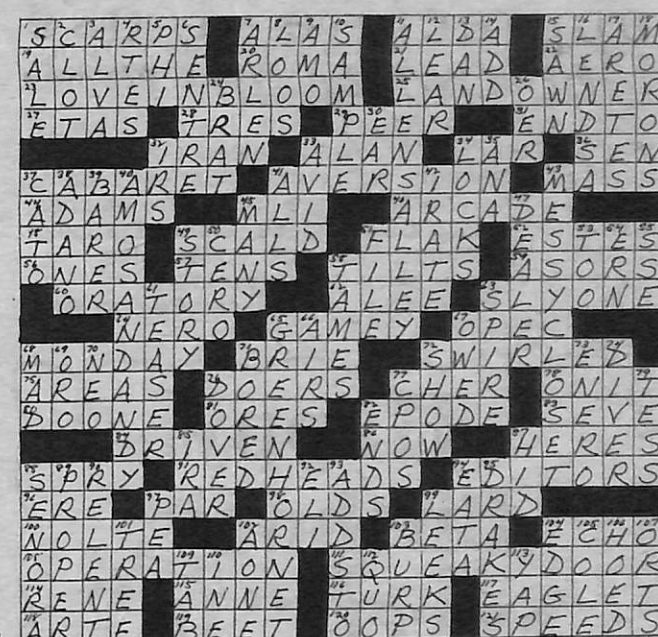


"Hello Dolly"



THE ST. MARTHA PLAYERS of Enfield will start their 26th year with a musical favorite, "Hello Dolly." Performances will be held April 15th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd, 29th, 30th, and May 6th & 7th at 8:00 p.m. All performances are at Goulet Hall at St. Martha's Church on Brainard Road. Pictured are Dolly Levi (Anne Giza) and Paul McDonald (Horace Vandergelder).

Last Week's Solution...



Birthday card ads are \$25 with picture. Please stop by or mail to Box 263, FH

YOU TURN our pages every week for all the local news - AAN - Subscribe!!!

DR. R. RABINOWITZ

Dr. R. Rabinowitz, Optometrist, has merged with Longmeadow Eye Care at 471 Longmeadow St., Longmeadow, MA 01106, (413) 567-1347. Agawam patient records are now in Longmeadow.

While premises are shared with Visions of Longmeadow Opticians, this remains an independent practice. We would be privileged to continue serving you in Longmeadow.

To reach us from South End Bridge, take Exit 1, Rt. 5 South (Longmeadow St.). After third traffic light, take the second left and look for VISIONS OF LONGMEADOW sign.

The Agawam School Committee will hold a public hearing on the School Choice program on Tuesday, April 12th, 1994 at the:

**Agawam Middle School Auditorium
68 Main Street, Agawam, MA.**

Time: 8:00 P.M.

It's Halloween In May As Suffield Players To Stage Monster Musical Starting May 5th

Suffield: It's Halloween in May as the Suffield Players stage the "monster" musical, *"I'm Sorry The Bridge Is Out, You'll Have To Spend The Night."* Be there as every grade "B" movie monster you've seen breaks into song. (Now that's scary!)

Directed by award winning actor/director Margie Secora, this outrageous musical-comedy plays it all for laughs, as Dracula, Frankenstein, the Wolfman, the Mummy, and a monster cast of 16 take over historic Mapleton Hall in Suffield on May 5th, 6th, 7th, 13th, 14th, 20th, and 21st at 8:00 p.m.

You know the plot ... it's a dark and stormy night, and a young couple, John and Mary (Mark Proulx and Paula Cortis) are stranded at a spooky, old house. The residents who "live" there, including Lyle (Igor) Pearsons, Rick (Dracula) Anderson, and Konrad (Frankenstein) Rogowski, all vie

for this infusion of fresh blood, and it's a madcap race to see who will make it to the dawn.

With music by Bobby "Boris" Pickett of "Monster Mash" fame, and Sheldon Allman, it's a night of thrills and chills for kids of all ages.

Tickets will be available by calling 1-800-289-6148 starting Thursday, April 14th. Seating will be theatre style, and discounts will be available for seniors and students with proper ID, and for groups of 10 or more (if reserved and pre-paid).

The first Thursday and Friday will be bargain nights at \$5. The first Saturday, May 7th, will be \$12 and includes an after-show gala/monster bash.

All other nights will be \$10. Come on out and howl with the Suffield Players!



MEMBERS OF THE SUFFIELD PLAYERS rehearse a musical number for their upcoming "monstercal" *"I'm Sorry The Bridge Is Out, You'll Have To Spend The Night."* From left to right - Barbara Warner, Richard Anderson, Tom McDonald, Konrad Rogowski, and Amy Heft surround musical accompanist Marcy Secora. Margie Secora directs this hilarious spoof on those beloved movie monsters which will run May 5th, 6th, 7th, 13th, 14th, 20th, and 21st at Mapleton Hall, Suffield, CT. Call 1-800-289-6148 for ticket reservations starting Thursday, April 14th.

PLEASE remember that our deadline is every Tuesday at noontime but we do appreciate those who bring in their copy on Monday or on Friday. We open at 6:30 a.m.

From the "Pean" to Sweet Sixteen!

**Happy Birthday,
Erica**



Love,
Mom, Dad and Alison

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Monday, April 18th

For All Agawam School Kids

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Agawam Lions Club

At

Agawam Rollaway Rink

Main Street — Agawam



*Come
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The Fun*



Kindergarten To Grade 4

9:30 A.M. To 12:00 Noon

Grades 5 To 9

1:00 P.M. To 4:00 P.M.

Must Use School ID's



Education



MEMBERS OF AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL Students Against Driving Drunk (SADD) accept posters from Peter Forastiere, funeral director of Colonial Funeral Home in Agawam. The funeral home donated posters with an anti-drunk driving message for the upcoming prom season. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Anti-Drunk Driving Posters Presented To SADD Students At Agawam High

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The coming of spring means different things to different people. Golfers and gardeners anxiously wait for the snow to melt; softball and baseball players start hitting the fields for practice; and high school students look forward to the prom and the excitement and celebrations surrounding graduation.

The coming of spring has a different significance to funeral home directors. According to Peter Forastiere of the Forastiere Family Funeral Homes, each spring funeral directors are faced with the sobering thought that they will soon be called upon to deal with the shattered wreckage left behind when prom and graduation season seems to lead inevitably to an increase in teenage drinking and driving.

Forastiere, an Agawam resident, visited the AHS Chapter of SADD (Students Against Driving Drunk) to present them with several copies of posters designed to catch the students' attention and deliver a dramatic message about their final destination when drinking and driving prove a fatal combination.

The two posters, designed and distributed by the Massachusetts Funeral Directors' Association, rely on shock value to impress on the students the message that drinking and driving don't mix and choosing a designated driver can save their lives (if they have been drinking).

One poster depicting a coffin being carried into a church by six pall bearers advises, "Ask a friend for a lift—not us." The second poster continued

with the theme of using designated drivers with an illustration of a funeral director loading a coffin into a hearse and the message, "The choice is yours."

"It's kind of a shocking message, but it's a shocking problem," Forastiere told the students. Accepting the posters on behalf of SADD, student Beth Fleury thanked Forastiere and added, "We need things like this now. We couldn't have come up with anything this creative."

Forastiere said he hoped to play a small part in raising the students' awareness of the tragic results of drinking and driving.

SADD members agreed that the posters were shocking and morbid, but all felt the posters would make an impression on AHS students.

School nurse Catherine Hallaman, SADD Advisor, suggested that the group use some of the posters for its prom campaign against drunk driving and to save some posters for use closer to graduation. "I hope the posters give the students the message," Mrs. Hallaman said.

SADD members plan to put the posters up in the halls as part of their prom plans to keep students from driving drunk. At the prom, a SADD logo card with a dime attached will be placed at each table setting to remind the students to make a call for a ride rather than get into a car with someone who has been drinking. AHS Principal Russell Furtado donated the dimes, according to group members.

Language Arts Group Presents Findings To School Committee

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Curriculum Coordinator Ann Favreau presented the Language Arts Task Force report to the School Committee at its March 22nd meeting.

Mrs. Favreau explained that with the help of retired Robinson Park School Principal Barbara Skolnick, meetings were held with teachers from grades pre-kindergarten through six to discuss the language arts curriculum and make recommendations for improvements.

According to Mrs. Favreau, over 98 percent of the teachers participated in the discussions and helped form the recommendations from that task force.

The task force divided its findings into human and material factors that impact the effectiveness of the current Language Arts Program.

Mrs. Favreau said it was essential for teachers to have more awareness of teaching strategies for working with students in heterogeneous (mixed ability level) settings; to have training in correlating reading, writing, spelling, speaking, and listening; to develop alternate ways of assessing student growth; and to have the opportunity for meeting with their colleagues at the same grade level and between grade levels.

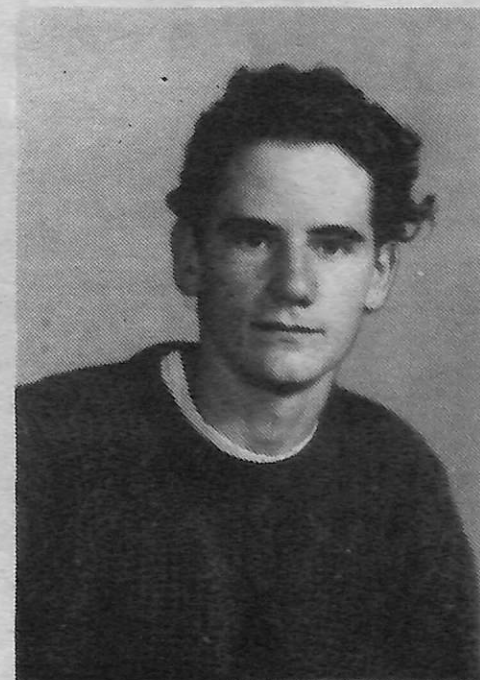
The task force leaders identified concerns with scheduling and classroom materials throughout the school system. Mrs. Favreau said a block of time set aside for language arts would increase contact teaching time, and the task force recommended that teachers read to the students on a daily basis to utilize the best in children's literature.

According to the task force, the system needs a literature-based reading series with a phonics component, supplementary materials to support classroom work, expanded school libraries and an elementary school librarian, a written language arts curriculum, and training in the process writing method for teachers in all grade levels.

The task force also recommended that class size for grades kindergarten through two be limited to 20 students, and that grades three through six should have no more than 25 students. Teacher assistants should be hired when classes in grades kindergarten through two have more than 26 students, and when grades three through six have more than 28 students.

In addition to purchasing a new reading series and supplementary materials and trade books for classroom use, the task force recommended that all old materials be discarded.

Happy Birthday, Josh



Love,
Mom, Dad, John & Erin



Congratulations 1994
Graduates

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British Point Of View Presented To Students At Junior High

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Organized in the fall of 1768, the 64th Regiment of Foot was sent to the American Colonies because the people were not paying their taxes and were beating up government officials. With no police force to keep order, the British government was forced to send in troops to maintain order.

Sound a little different from what you may remember from American History class? That's exactly what social studies Chairman William Quinn had in mind when he arranged for a British Revolutionary War soldier to visit with eighth graders as part of their study of American history.

Quinn said it was important for the students to get another point of view than their teacher's. "It's good for them to hear the point of view of a British soldier."

Guy Morin of Historical Interpretive Programs said he has been interested in the Revolutionary War for most of his life. Turning his hobby of participating in reenactments of Revolutionary War battles into a business, Morin has been bringing history to life for students in grades four through 12 for the past seven years.

Dressed in an authentic reproduction of the uniform of a typical British foot soldier, complete with a reproduction of the Brown Bess musket, Morin gives the students a comprehensive overview of the war as seen through the eyes of the Redcoats.

Contrary to the commonly held belief that the Red uniform of the British uniform made them sitting ducks for the rifles of the Minuteman, Morin said the British uniform and tactic of marching in large formations actually helped the British win most of the major battles of the war.

Morin said most of the battles were fought in open countryside as the armies clashed. With a loading and firing time of only 15 seconds, the British were able to smash through American defenders whose rifles required nearly a full minute for reloading. In the smoke and fog of battle, the red uniform helped the British to identify their own soldiers.

According to Morin, British soldiers were all volunteers who joined the army as a means of supporting themselves and their families. Clad in a heavy wool uniform, the soldiers carried two to three days worth of food and ammunition.



GUY MORIN, who portrays a typical British foot soldier in the American Colonies, presented a program to Junior High American History students. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Morin explained each part of the uniform and the kit carried by each soldier. It included the triangular-shaped bayonette, designed to inflict gaping wounds, to the black leather shoes (which were switched from the right to the left foot once a week on orders from the sergeant).

Morin said impersonating a British soldier allows him more opportunities to participate in reenactments. Morin said he chose to don the redcoat during Bi-Centennial celebrations when most Revolutionary War buffs wanted to go on the American side.

Agawam Schools' Lunch Menu

Monday, April 11th: Oven baked chicken nuggets w/dipping sauce, seasoned diced carrots, bread & butter, cinnamon applesauce, milk.

Tuesday, April 12th: Spaghetti w/meatsauce, creamy coleslaw, garlic bread & butter, orange jello w/topping or pears in syrup, milk.

Wednesday, April 13th: Hamburg in roll, mustard, relish, catsup, chuck wagon corn, steamed herbed rice, blueberry crisp, milk.

Thursday, April 14th: Veal patty parmesan sandwich, tossed garden salad w/spinach greens & Italian dressing, white cake w/mocha icing or peaches in syrup, milk.

Friday, April 15th: Manager's choice of soup, grilled cheese sandwich, oven French fries w/catsup, raw carrot curls, chocolate pudding w/topping or fruit cup, milk.

(NOTE: Please remember to purchase your tickets on Mondays for the week. Personal checks are accepted, payable to The Agawam School Lunch.)

Two Town Students Make Salem Honors

Stephanie L. Palazzi of Agawam and Jennifer J. Scalise of Feeding Hills have been named to the dean's list at Salem State College for the Fall 1993 semester.

Best local news...

Chiropractic Care Is A Family Affair!

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TIME: 10 am to 11 am
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COST: \$12
TO REGISTER: Call Nancy at 786-2957 or send your check and this ad to Nancy Dell, 850 Springfield St., Suite 4, Feeding Hills, MA 01030



Agawam High Guidance Report

by Paul C. Cavallo
Chairman

A Look At The "College Counsel"

During the next six weeks, the junior guidance counselors will be distributing to juniors who aspire to a four-year college, an application for a computer program called the College Counsel. The purpose of this program is to develop a student profile that will match a student's needs with colleges that come close to meeting his/her needs.

The application consists of questions that deal with the following:

1. Size of school
2. Type of school - public or private
3. Tuition costs
4. School location - urban or suburban
5. Major area of study
6. Activity interest

The counselor adds to the application the student's PSAT scores, class rank, levels of courses (H.A. or A.P.), and number of college preparatory courses in order to solicit a meaningful profile.

After the student's responses and the counselor input is fed to the computer, a profile match is completed. The computer will list up to nine schools that match the student's profile. They are divided into three areas:

1. Schools that are considered a definite acceptance
2. Schools that are considered a "longshot" for admission
3. Schools that are strong possibilities but not definite acceptance

The counselor will review this information with the student along with an abundance of other important material related to the college matches. A portfolio is produced and given to the student for future planning. This should be shared with

his/her parents.

REMINDER: Parents of juniors ... **DO NOT FORGET** that next Wednesday, April 13th, a guidance program entitled "Career Planning" will be held in the high school cafeteria from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

GUIDANCE BULLETIN

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES: Congratulations!
Chris DeMastrie - Worcester Polytech
John Hogan - Worcester Polytech
Benjamin Auld - HCC
Jennifer Ferrara - HCC
Kevin Gillette - STCC
Katie Berry - Siena
Michelle Mercadante - Siena
Karlene Papadakis - STCC, HCC, Springfield College
Joe Scherpa - Boston University, Worcester Polytech
Tiffany Maleshefski - Univ. of San Francisco
Michael Rose - Rochester Institute of Technology, Hartwick College
Laurie Bresnahan - STCC
Jay Reopel - Franklin Institute of Technology, STCC

Dana Adams - Union College, Lehigh University
Erin Pettazzoni - HCC
Robert Fink - Westfield State
Matthew Bellico - Boston College
SCHOLARSHIPS - See your counselor for more information.

Pascal A. Deliso Scholarship - Available to graduating seniors of local high schools. Applicants must be of 50% Italian descent, accepted at two- or four-year college, have a commitment to the Roman Catholic faith, show high academic merit, and possess a willingness to render community service. Deadline: April 29th, 1994.

Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, Massachusetts Alpha Chapter Scholarship - Two \$200 scholarships will be awarded to graduating male students who will be attending UMASS/Amherst in the fall 1994 semester. It is open to men who show accomplishment not only in academics, but also in sports, community service, or student body activities. Deadline: May 20th, 1994.

John C. Quinn Memorial Scholarship - This \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a minority student interested in studying journalism in college. Deadline: June 1st, 1994.

OPEN HOUSES: See your counselor for more information.

Teikyo Post University - April 24th, 1994, 12:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Red Door Theatre To Hold Vacation Drama Camp In April

Applications are still being accepted for "Kalaidoscope Kamp," a theatre camp for young people five through 12 years-old, which will run during the April school vacation.

The camp is run by Kit and Kaboodle/STAGE producers Lyle Pearsons and Margie Secora, who operate their theatre productions and drama workshops out of the Red Door Theatre, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA (next to the Valley Community Church).

Both Pearsons and Secora are former teachers in Suffield and Southwick and now operate their children's theatre and touring concert programs full-time. Joining them for this session is Granby teacher and drama coach Debbie Randzio of Southwick.

These three award-winning artists/educators will guide the young theatre enthusiasts through several creative drama activities which will explore acting, singing, dancing, pantomime, puppetry, and masks.

The "Kalaidoscope Kamp" day runs from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. each day, April 18th-22nd. Children will bring a bag lunch and a mid-morning snack will be provided. The fee is \$80. To register, call 789-2026 or send your name, child's name, age, address, telephone number, and fee to Kit and Kaboodle, P.O. Box 215, West Suffield, CT 06093.

Kerry Robinson Named To Who's Who At Westfield State

Kerry Robinson of 521 South West Street has been inducted into *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

Currently a senior at Westfield State College, she is a criminal justice and social science major with a concentration in social work. She is the captain of the cheerleading team and the lieutenant governor of the community service organization Circle K, as well as a court-appointed special advocate in the Springfield juvenile court.

Kerry is the daughter of Noreen Robinson and is a graduate of Agawam High School.

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786-2211

Robinson 3rd Graders Write Classifieds For Union-News Contest

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Thanks to their talent at writing classified advertisements, the third grade students in Deborah Buzzee's class will be attending the performance of "Sleeping Beauty" at Symphony Hall in Springfield on April 15th as the guests of *The Springfield Union-News*.

Participating in the fifth Annual Writing Contest for area schools sponsored by *The Union-News* as part of its Newspaper in Education Program, the students competed against 167 area schools.

The contest is open to students in grades one through 12 and is divided into different categories for creating an ad and writing editorials. Students in grades one through three were asked to write a classified ad to sell a toy they no longer used.

As Miss Buzzee explained, each class entering the contest was allowed to send only three ads for judging. "My entire class participated. We had to choose the three best, which we did by student vote," Miss Buzzee related.

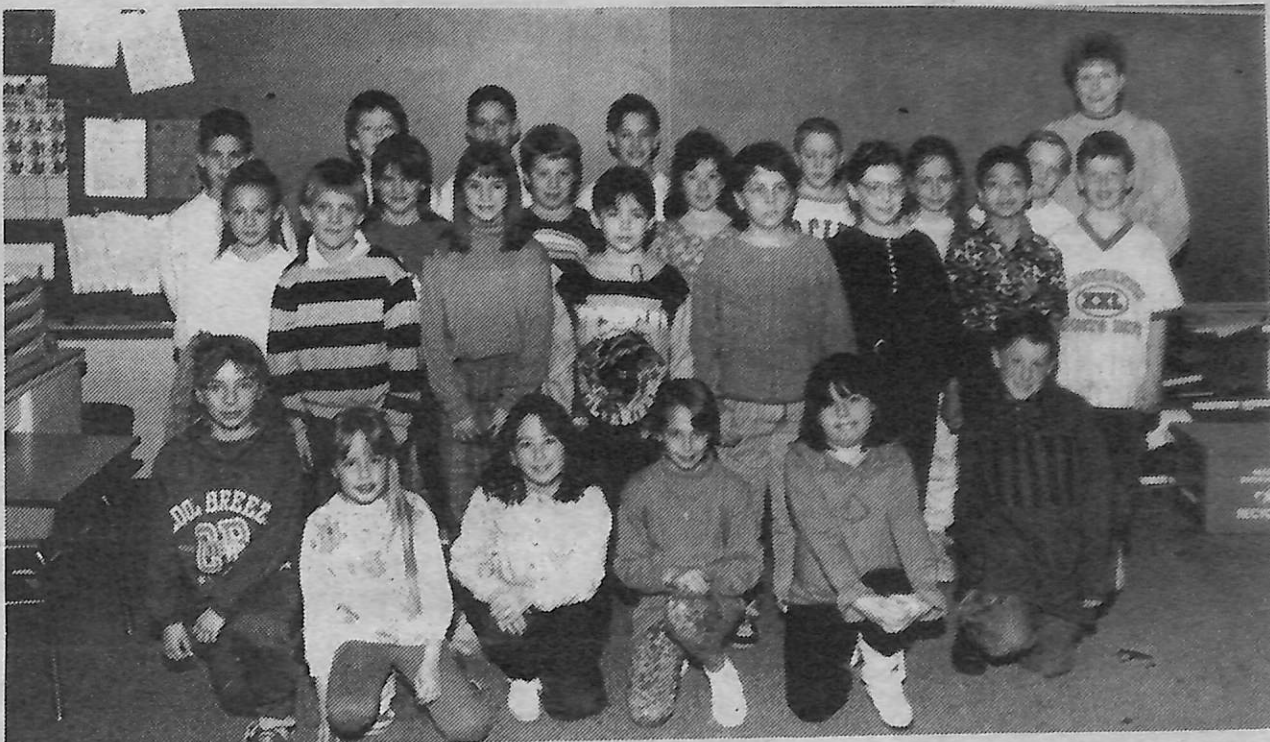
Although none of Miss Buzzee's students won individual prizes, the three entries submitted earned the entire class a trip to the ballet. "This was a great way for the contest to turn out, because I feel all of the ads were winners," Miss Buzzee said. Robinson School was one of two area schools to win a trip to Symphony Hall.

Miss Buzzee said the class entries were written by Adam Garvey, Stella Knapik, and Ryan Lottemoser. In their ads, the children attempted to sell a stuffed animal, a bicycle, and a swimming pool.

Miss Buzzee said she was able to work the writing contest into her regular Language Arts Program. "We try to write at least once a week and they had a great time doing it."

After the performance, the children will be joined by the characters from the ballet for a pizza lunch before returning to school.

Miss Buzzee said the PTO was providing the transportation for the trip.



ROBINSON PARK THIRD GRADE TEACHER Deborah Buzzee and her Room 19 students entered a "Write-A-Classified" Contest sponsored by *The Springfield Union-News*.

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pages
every
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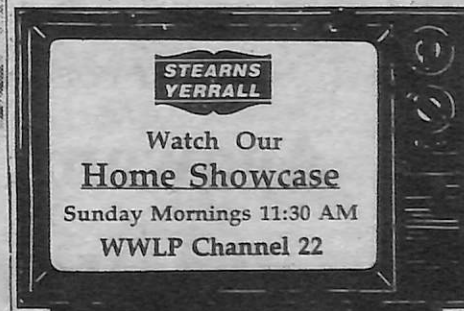


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NEW HOMES DIVISION 159 Longmeadow St., Longmeadow 567-7632
RELOCATION 168 Main St., Agawam 789-4523

Parenting Prog. Set To Begin At Ag. Library

A few openings remain for parents interested in attending the Early Childhood Systematic Training For Effective Parenting (S.T.E.P.) program for parents of young children. This program will be offered in the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library on consecutive Tuesday evenings from April 12th to May 17th.

Early childhood S.T.E.P. is designed for parents of children who are ages newborn through age five. The objective of this program is to help parents gain parenting skills, understand children's behavior and build self-esteem, foster communication and cooperation, effective discipline and healthy family relationships. S.T.E.P. was an overwhelming success when the program was last offered in 1992.

The workshops will be led by Joyce Rheame of the Agawam School Department. Mrs. Rheame has been an early childhood teacher at Phelps School and a teacher in the Agawam Early Childhood Integrated Preschool Program for over six years. She has completed a master's degree in young children with special needs and has three young children of her own.

For more information or to register for this free six-week program, please call the Agawam Public Library at 789-1550, or stop by the library at 750 Cooper Street.

St. Thomas School Organizes PTO

For the first time ever, the St. Thomas School of Pine Street, West Springfield, has a Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO). The PTO has met over the last two months, and the enthusiasm and energy from the parents are very exciting.

Over 100 parents showed their support for the PTO at both the February and March meetings. Subcommittees have already been formed and have begun to work; one of the four larger subcommittees (specifically the "Fundraiser Committee") has already begun with their first project.

Families and friends of the St. Thomas School will be coming out for a "family portrait" this coming weekend, April 9th and 10th, to be taken right at the school. There are still time slots available on late Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Anyone interested may call the St. Thomas School on Friday, April 8th, during school hours, or Doris Schuh (fundraiser co-chair) at 786-8011 after 5:00 p.m. to make an appointment.

The PTO is very hopeful that this will be a very successful event. For \$12.95, each family will get a wonderful 10 x 13 color family portrait which can be cherished always.

Many thanks go out to the St. Thomas School administration, the PTO, and to all the families and friends of St. Thomas School for their support.

Agawam Public Schools Ed-Ventures

by JOHN F. BROSANAN, Ph.D.
Director
Ag. Special Services



Mainstreaming

Mainstreaming, the process by which students with special needs receive a portion of their education within the regular education setting, is perhaps the most highly discussed, but least understood component of special education, and while the term itself does not appear in the federal legislation, the practice of mainstreaming derives its existence from the "least restrictive environment" provision in the law, whereby states were required to establish

procedures to ensure that, to the maximum extent appropriate, handicapped children, including children in public and private institutions or other care facilities, are educated with children who are not handicapped and that special classes, separate schooling, or the removal of handicapped children from the regular environment occurs only when the nature or severity of the handicap is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplemental aides and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily (P.L. 94-142, 1975).

P.L. 94-142 was designed to increase the acceptance of disabled children by their non-disabled peers, to ensure equivalent opportunities for learning, and to facilitate the development of skills in disabled children by exposing them to normal peer models.

When President Bush signed into law the Education of the Handicapped Act Amendment of 1990 (P.L. 104-476), it, too, reflected the current issues and perspectives on adequate service delivery within our educational system. Congress cited in its findings, that more than 50 percent of our eight million disabled children were not receiving an appropriate education; more than one million were excluded from the entire educational system, and families were being forced to secure services outside the school because of inadequate services within the school.

And most recently, in *Oberti v. Board of Educa-*

tion of the Borough of Clementon School District, the court ruled that "inclusion is a right, not a privilege for a select few," the second such ruling in 1992 to favor education of disabled students in classes with non-disabled learners.

Yet, in spite of favorable rulings in legislation regarding disabled students, interpretation of the law continues to influence what effect law has on practice. That is, what may be mandated in legal terms is not what is often established in reality.

Although arguments against mainstreaming are irrelevant with such prevalent mandates, issues regarding effective mainstreaming practices continue to linger. But rather than focus on the physical placements of disabled students, we must now turn our efforts to improving the quality and effectiveness of the practices implemented within those placements. The goal is no longer the integration of disabled students with their non-disabled peers, but in meeting the challenge to ensure these students actually benefit from such a practice.

While mainstreaming may be politically and morally correct practice to adopt, concerns over teacher and student attitudes, time management and training, potential effects of negative role models and poor self-esteem, the general ecology of the classroom, instructional methods and materials, and the existence of dual educational systems continue to be loudly expressed. It is in this context that we continually strive to place our special needs students in the least restrictive environment with the maximum of support services that is appropriate.

It is of paramount importance that we continue to realize and understand that mainstreaming is more than just a legal concept. It calls for interpretation and creative implementation of adaptation, accommodation, communication, consultation, cooperation, training, support, and evaluation strategies.

As educators of all students, we will continue to focus our efforts on addressing the key differences in all our learners, and meet the challenges of our ever-changing schools, through efforts of increasing quality and training of our professionals, by bringing decision making and professional autonomy into our schools, by increasing the quality and percentage of time spent teaching, utilizing a wider range of techniques and interactive tasks, reorganizing instructional practices, and providing ongoing technical support.

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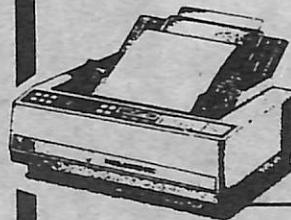
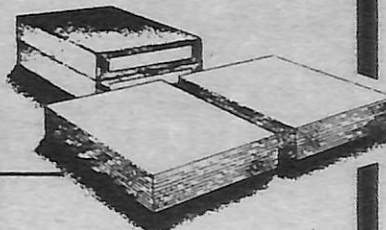
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Kelly Connor Named AHS "Artist Of The Month" For March

Kelly Connor, a senior at Agawam High School, was selected as the "Artist of the Month" for March by Mrs. Geraldine Ann Schilling-Nordal, Art Department Chairman at AHS.

She is the daughter of Robert and Mary Connor of Agawam and has a brother, Kevin. Kelly is the designer of this year's prom program and has diligently worked on this committee to see that the evening of April 20th will be an enjoyable one.

In the past, Kelly has volunteered her time to teach people of all ages to model. She has taught modeling for Off-Broadway productions as "Dick Tracy" and "Aladdin," and has acted and modeled herself. She was an extra in the HBO production "The Coming Out Of Heidi Leiter."

Kelly plans to attend Springfield Technical Community College in the fall, but she is undecided about her major.

President Clinton Recognizes Families Who Host On AFS

In a letter from the White House, President Bill Clinton commended the families who host American Intercultural Programs (AFS) high school exchange students and teachers in Agawam and across the country. The letter was prompted by the Annual AFS Celebration of Host Family Recognition Week.

Agawam AFS helped to celebrate this special week with a potluck supper to honor the five Agawam families who are hosting the five AFS students at Agawam High School. These families include the Lacienski family (Celeste Arraztoa, Chile), Gallerani family (Joana Monteiro-Grillo, Portugal), Asta-Ferrero family (Yvonne Hodel, Switzerland), Carpenter family (Martin Asp, Sweden), and Sardella family (Alena Rusova, Czech Republic).

Value Of Hosting Experience

In the letter, President Clinton explained the value of the hosting experience and why the White House extended the commendation. "AFS-sponsored programs provide an invaluable medium for fostering friendship and understanding between citizens of the world - a relationship essential to creating worldwide peace and prosperity in the 21st century."

Jennifer Froistad, president of AFS/USA, responding to the President's message. "Each year we try to stress to our host families and to the families who might consider hosting AFS students, that what we are doing is more than an act of hospitality and generosity - it is helping to promote in Agawam and all over the globe the values of understanding, tolerance, and peace in a world of diversity."

Ms. Froistad added, "To be recognized by President Clinton for your contributions to your community and to the world is a great honor and a confirmation of the true value that can come from hosting an AFS student and sharing our culture, politics, history, and tradition."

Host Families Play Critical Role

The White House letter not only commended the families who host, but also urged continued support and participation. Says President Clinton, "Host families have a critical role to play in this exchange by furnishing a home away from home for students in a culture different from their own. I urge each of you to continue this vital tradition of helping people around the world to gain a better understanding of the experiences that make us unique and the dreams we share in common."

There is a great need for more families to host. "There are curious and eager teens around the world who want to learn about the people and culture of the United States and teach about their own. But they need a place to call home and a family who will welcome them," said Ms. Froistad.

Any family in Agawam who may be interested in learning more information about hosting is urged to contact the following Agawam AFS representatives - Al Machia, 786-0114; Mary Ellen Bruce (AFS faculty advisor at Agawam High) at 789-1400, extension 421 (weekdays); and Ric Sardella, chapter president, 786-7747 (days) or 789-2005 (evenings).

AFS is the oldest and largest citizen exchange organization in the world. Agawam AFS has hosted more students as seniors at Agawam High School than any other chapter in the New England district over the past 10 years.

Agawam AFS will be celebrating its 20th year during the 1994-95 academic year.



AGAWAM HIGH SENIOR KELLY CONNOR was named the "Artist of the Month" by Art Department Chairwoman Geraldine Ann Schilling-Nordal. Kelly plans to attend STCC this fall. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Town Residents On Conn. College List

Agawam residents Matthew T. McLean and Cara A. Tonelli have been named to dean's honors for the 1993-94 fall semester at Connecticut College. Dean's honors are given to those who have received a 3.30-3.69 grade point average.

Connecticut College is an 80-year-old highly-selective private residential coeducational liberal arts college enrolling 1,600 undergraduates that is distinguished by its commitment to preparing liberally educated men and women for leadership.

In the top quartile of national liberal arts colleges on the annual ranking by *US News and World Report*, the college maintains centers for international studies and the liberal arts, conservation biology and environmental studies, and the arts and technology; it offers fellowships to science majors for summer work on campus with faculty members and operates a distinctive summer program that advances high school students of color who have college potential.

AHS Report Cards Coming After School Vacation

Russell G. Furtado, Agawam High School Principal, would like to inform parents and students that report cards will be sent home the week after the April vacation.

This is being done to give the students and teachers a full 45-day semester to complete and grade assignments.

Added time is also needed to determine graduation eligibility.

Anthony Kunasek Named By Law School

Anthony W. Kunasek, an eight-term student at Thomas M. Cooley Law School, Lansing, Michigan, was awarded an American Jurisprudence Award in Wills and Jurisdiction for the previous term.

Kunasek was also named on the Honor Roll and Dean's List. He also serves as assistant editor of the Thomas M. Cooley Law Review.

Kunasek, a 1989 magna cum laude graduate of American International College, is the son of Louise Kunasek, 21420 Bay Village Drive, Ft. Myers Beach. He also is a graduate of Agawam High School.

The American Jurisprudence Award recognizes the highest ranking student in the study of a particular course.

Cub Scout Pack 78 To Hold Car Wash

Cub Scout Pack 78 from Feeding Hills Congregational Church will hold its annual car wash on Saturday, April 23rd.

The car wash will take place in the parking lot of Partner's Restaurant at 485 Springfield Street in Feeding Hills. The scouts will be washing cars from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Donation is \$2.

Proceeds from the sale will be used toward Pack activities, awards, and annual charter fees.

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Best local news...



HELEN CAREY

Helen Carey Retires After Many Years As School Lunch Lady

Helen Carey, cook manager of Granger School's cafeteria since 1987, has announced her retirement after 24 years in the school system.

Born on Homer Street in Feeding Hills, Mrs. Carey has lived here all her life. She started her career in the Agawam schools in 1970. She worked for Lillian Gray at the Agawam High School until 1971, after which she worked for Alice Connor at Robinson Park School until 1973.

Mrs. Carey transferred to Agawam Junior High School, where she was appointed cook manager in 1978 and continued there until 1987. In 1987, she became cook manager at Granger School.

Mrs. Carey and her husband of 42 years, Leo Carey, Jr., have four children, Leo, Susan, Cindy, and Robert. With her husband also retired, Mrs. Carey said they "plan on doing a lot of travelling and yard work."

Paper Airplane Fun At Agawam Library

If you like paper airplanes or if you'd like to learn how to make them, "Paper Airplane Fun" will be for you. Kids ages five and up can come to the Agawam Library on Thursday, April 14th, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. for airplane stories, crafts, and paper flying lessons.

There will even be a flying contest with plenty of winners! Call 789-1550 or stop by at 750 Cooper Street to register.

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Storyhour Goes Over Big At Phelps School



THE PHELP PTO sponsored a story hour with Jeanne Hoffman, children's librarian at the Agawam Library as the guest storyteller. A huge crowd was on hand for the March 29th event. IN TOP PHOTO, pictured serving ice cream are Ellen Janik, Ann Macey, and Jennifer McGuire. IN PHOTO LEFT, pictured are Jeanne Hoffman and Donna Pereira, PTO president. Advertiser

News photos by Jack Devine.

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Sports

AHS SPRING SPORTS PREVIEW

Rebuilding Continues For Lou Conte & AHS Baseball

by Bob Johnson
Advertiser News Sports Editor

The Red Sox were entertaining the Tigers in their home opener and it was 51 degrees under sunny skies at Fenway. Baseball coach Lou Conte was stationed outside Agawam High School naming his first captain of the season, **Eric Mastroianni**.

The Brownies were also enjoying the first of what they hope are many beautiful days as they count down to their season opener, which will take place in Chicopee on April 14th.

"We don't want to see a lot of ink in the newspapers about our team just yet," Conte stated. "We have a lot of work to do to get ourselves to where we want to be this season. We want to prove together that we are a legitimate baseball team, and we want to take the field with pride game in and game out."

Conte's team got plenty of ink this past winter as he guided the girls' basketball team to the State Championship game, but you don't have to talk to the second-year coach very long to realize where his heart really lies—he is a baseball man through and through.

"We had seven wins last season (Conte's first) in our first try out here," Conte reflected. "And, our goal is to win more than that this year. A good season and we could wind up in the playoffs. That's what we want, naturally, because once you get there, it's anybody's ballgame."

The team is all set as far as the numbers are concerned. Conte has a veteran pitching staff comprised of **Jon Jacobsen**, **Brian Colby**, and **Brian Anderson** (three right-handers). Look for **Jeff Campbell** to also toe the rubber as a left-hander.

Agawam will keep five seniors, five juniors, and four sophomores as it gets ready to compete in the Valley League against Cathedral, Chicopee Comp, Central, and Holyoke.

Conte's coaching staff will consist of Brian Rheault (who will be the hitting instructor and catcher's coach) and Pete Clark (who takes charge of the outfielders). Both coaches return for their second year under Conte.

When asked where the strengths of this year's team lie, the coach quietly pointed to a Conte trademark: "We should be very strong fundamentally. We work on situations all the time and the kids learn more and more every day. We also have some team speed around here. Our outfield defense should be very good. And I think that we will be a good hitting team. We won't have a lot of power, but we will make good contact and run the bases well."

Campbell and Jacobsen will split time at first base this year; **John O'Brien** will get the nod at short; **Eric Mastroianni** will work at second base; and third base is up in the air, as a number of candidates (**Dom Pisano**, **Carm Battista**, **Jay Pelquin**, and **Mike Domaigne**) all compete for an infield position.

Colby and **Jason Votzakis** will play in the outfield along with **Jim Baldyga** (and others), and **Brian Klinakis** should see the lion's share of the catching duties.

AHS baseball continues to get richer in terms of "toys," too, as it had just taken delivery of an overhead batting cage (which the team was set to assemble following practice on Monday). Last season, Conte brought pitching machines and batting cages to AHS.

So while the Parks and Rec guys worked feverishly on the baseball field, the kids worked on the new overhead batting cage. And Lou Conte continued to work on the future.

Girls' Softball Again Looms As Contender In Western Mass.

by Bob Johnson
Advertiser News Sports Editor

Her eyes darted all over the field. Not one play occurred which didn't spark at least one note of encouragement or word of advice. Coach Debbie Lickley is back on the AHS softball diamond for her fifth season and she is just as fired up as in any previous season.

Last year, she had her troops in the Western Mass semi-finals against Amherst and her kids didn't hang up their cleats until they had rung up a 17-5 record. She hopes to show the fans more of the same in 1994.

"We may go back to the bunting a little more this season," she said, obviously after a lot of thought on the subject. "We had some special players last season who could give us the big hit and drive in the big run. This new unit is going to be very aggressive and we will manufacture a ton of runs. That will give us some early confidence if we do the job right."

As coaches in the other sports squirm with the terrible early season weather, Miss Lickley actually licks her chops and enjoys it. She is a fundamentals coach (pure and simple) and she enjoys getting that extra time to teach and teach and teach some more.

With all the optimism, Lickley is faced with the fact that just one position player returns at the position at which she played a year ago. Senior **April Rapa** will stay at shortstop, but none of the

SEE SOFTBALL - Page 47...

Brownie Boys' Tennis Hoping For Another Trip To Tourney

by Bob Johnson
Advertiser News Sports Editor

With a solid squad laced with upperclassmen, Coach Ken Dean will lead the Agawam High boys' tennis team into the fray this season. And the goal is the same as last year - qualify for the Western Mass. Tournament.

"We did make it (last year) on a technicality," Dean told us. "One of the other teams had an ineligible player, but it did give us some experience at playing tournament tennis and a lot of the kids are back with us this season."

The Brownies finished the campaign at 4-10 a year ago. Dean went on to say that this year's team anticipates a competitive season with goals ranging from a better record to a solid tournament appearance.

Senior **Matt Bellico** appears to have won the number one singles position with **Rob Settembro** and **Marc Swikalus** filling the second and third singles slots, respectively.

Jose Ricarte and **John Hogan** will compete at first doubles and the tandem of **Mike Rose** and **Xuan Ly** will comprise the second doubles unit. Dean has **Martin Asp** (a foreign exchange student from Sweden) and **Konrad Chmiel** waiting in the wings for opportunities to crack the starting lineup in the near future.

Dean also mentioned that several freshmen have burst onto the scene and they should be heard from soon.

Agawam begins its 1994 season with a home match vs. Central at presstime (weather permitting, of course).

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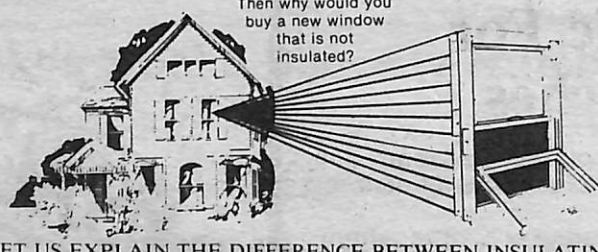
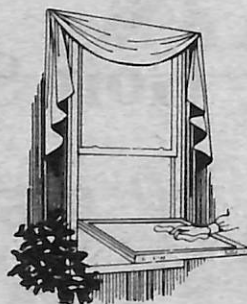
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AHS Spring Sport Preview - continued...

Girls' Tennis...

AHS Girls' Tennis Again Looms Strong On Net Circuit

by Bob Johnson
Advertiser News Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' tennis team quietly racks up playoff appearance after playoff appearance, year in and year out, as one of the lower profile sports on the AHS campus. Coach Mary Wolochowicz' team finished third in Western Mass again last season as it trailed perennial powers Longmeadow and Amherst—and nobody else.

"That's not bad for a school who has kids that only play tennis from April until June. The Longmeadow and Amherst kids play the sport all year long—indoors and outdoors—and they will stay on top probably forever," said the soft-spoken coach who has guided the Brownies for the better part of the past two decades.

The sport is growing in interest to levels far beyond what most people can realize. Want proof? This season, 55 (yes, 55!) girls showed up on the first day for tryouts.

Miss Wolochowicz told *The AAN* that they will now set up an intramural program to be offered in the fall so that some of these kids can learn the nuances of the sport and be better prepared when spring tryouts occur for the varsity.

"It was very gratifying to see all those kids wanting to be on our roster. What it did was create more interest in our sport and give us some terrific competition on our own team. Everybody will be pushing everybody else for a chance to play," she told us.

Tennis is one of those sports where the coach can set up challenge matches for "wannabe first teamers" and simply choose the winner of those matches. All of the subjectivity is removed from the situation.

The Agawam team will be given a "boost" this year as two foreign exchange students might wind up in the first and second singles slots. **Yvonne Hodel** from Switzerland has apparently cemented the number-one singles spot, and **Joana Monteiro Grillo** (Portugal) was competing with **Jen Touchette** for the number-two singles slot.

Brenda Borkowski, **Lisa Savioli**, **Kirsten Decoteau**, **Alison Jean**, **Nikki Sawyer**, and **Celeste Arraztoa** (another foreign exchange student [Chile]) are also still in contention for spots on the starting squad.

The team finished at 12-3 a year ago and tied for their league championship. "I think that you will see more of the same this season," said a slyly smiling Wolochowicz. "I am not sure that an Agawam team will ever beat a Longmeadow team, but I do believe that we can make those matches interesting. Our target this year should be to beat Amherst because I believe that we can climb up the ladder one more rung and knock off the Hurricanes this season."

It all gets under way at presstime (Wednesday, April 6th) as the Brownies open the season against the Central High Golden Eagles of Springfield.

AHS Baseball Offers Special Clinic For Players/Coaches

The Agawam High School baseball team and coaches will be offering two separate clinics for coaches and players.

On Tuesday, April 19th (during school vacation), the players and coaches will offer a clinic for players ages eight to 13 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Agawam High School. The clinic cost will be \$10, with the proceeds going to the team for the purchase of extra equipment. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. on the day of the clinic, and all aspects of fielding, throwing, hitting, and running will be covered.

On Saturday, April 23rd, a coaches' clinic will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the high school gymnasium for all youth baseball coaches. Topics to be covered will be pitching, hitting and fielding, as well as practice planning and how to incorporate fun into your practices. Everyone is welcome and the clinic is free of charge; please try to attend for the betterment of youth baseball for the town of Agawam.

All the local news with us, each week

Girls' Track...

Vecchiarelli Takes Reins As New Coach Of Girls' Track

by Bob Johnson
Advertiser News Sports Editor

For many seasons, Dean Vecchiarelli has coached two sports at Agawam High School. The head football coach generally kept his hand in during the winter by taking charge of the junior varsity boys' basketball Brownies. But this past season, Vecchiarelli "passed" on the hoops and took the winter off to recharge his batteries.

"I missed coaching," he cracked as he sat in the coaches' office this past week. "I'm really glad that I have a chance to compete again." Vecchiarelli recently accepted the girls' track vacancy and immediately set his sights on coaching and teaching again.

"I love this sport. It's fun and you can teach the kids new stuff every day," he said as he readied his troops for another day of practice.

Along with Assistant Coach **Carrie Caritj**, Vecchiarelli welcomed 31 track hopefuls this spring. The weather has set them back somewhat, as they have basically just run the troops through conditioning drills during the first 10 or 12 days of the pre-season.

The team is comprised mostly of underclassmen, and Vecchiarelli admits that the lack of outdoor training has yet to give him a chance to assess the talent that he possesses. He looks for **Dyan DeLuce** and **Rose Pignatari** (both seniors) to key the team's chances this year. DeLuce is a miler and discus thrower while Pignatari runs the 200 meters and throws the javelin.

Other seniors on this year's squad include **Nicole DeCosmo** (a sprinter who has missed several years with nagging leg injuries); **Beth Fleury** ("a great kid and an emotional leader" - Vecchiarelli); **Nina Giordano** (a sprinter); and **Erin Pettazzoni** ("she should help us in the hurdles" - Vecchiarelli).

Vecchiarelli also looks to the sophomore class for large contributions. **Sue DeFilipi**, **Erica Schlaffer**, **Jen Sparver**, and **Jamie Thomas** head the 10th grade class.

"We have introduced the triple jump and the high jump, but we haven't seen the track yet and we have not had the opportunity to even consider working on the blocks or finding our marks on the long jump," said a grinning Vecchiarelli. "We've got a lot of stuff to do and to learn, but we are going to have some fun doing it."

The vaunted Amherst High Hurricane track team will be in Agawam on April 14th to kick off the Brownie campaign.

Boys' Track...

Plenty Of Talent Gives Peterson Hope For Boys' Track

by Bob Johnson
Advertiser News Sports Editor

Sometimes it seems as if the Agawam High boys' track team hasn't had a lot of success in recent years. Long on quality athletes but thin in depth, the Agawam kids often win many of the battles only to lose the war.

First-year head coach **Jeff Peterson** intends to change all that. "Our goal is to go out there right now and challenge for the Western Mass title," says the determined young man.

He continued, "I don't know if we can do it because we haven't even been able to get on the track yet, but we have a ton of talent and these kids are working their tails off for us so far this spring."

Peterson, paired with Assistant Coach **Dan Beavis**, aims to change the outlook of the team for a long while: "We are going to be the hardest working track team around Western Mass, and I expect that we will be gaining skills and stamina as the season goes along. Hopefully, we will peak when the Western Mass meet comes along."

Peterson was a former AHS track standout and anchored the school's record-setting 4 x 100 relay team. He was also a triple jumper, discus thrower, and sprinter. Beavis graduated several years ago after completing a fine distance-running high school career.

The team will need big years from returning let-termers such as **Dan Moriarty** (400 meters/high jump); **Jason Rossi** (shotput); **Joe Scherpa** (high jump/pole vault); **Ryan Willett** (one mile); and **Brandon Moore** (800 meters).

The team also boasts of some promising newcomers, including **Todd Boskiewicz** (a lacrosse refugee); **Derek Poole** (200 meters/high jump); **Nathan Wooley** (sprints); **Youriy Zdrak** (discus); **Chris Wilkie** (300 hurdles); and **Andrew Ingham** (sprints/field events).

"We will base our hopes on the fact that we have some terrific young athletes," said an optimistic Peterson, adding, "If they will allow us to add the tweaking that it takes to make for better technique, they will have dramatic results and we can have a lot of fun around here this spring."

The team has also enjoyed a solid pre-season in the area of keeping athletes out for the sport. In past seasons, the attrition rate for losing athletes was alarmingly high, but Peterson told us that the numbers are actually on the rise as the first meet nears.

So the team has yet to get a sniff of the track, but road work and circuits on the grass fields at AHS have kept everybody interested to this point.



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Sports A La Carte...

Arkansas Proves To Be The Best; Daryl In Trouble

by Bob Johnson
Advertiser News Sports Editor

If you put enough bullets in the chamber, you are bound to hit something.

Four weeks ago (after viewing Arkansas's basketball team), I emphatically stated in this column space that the Razorbacks would win it all. They could pass so well, run so hard, play so many people, and score at will on the inside.

I stated that NOLAN RICHARDSON and Company would be partying in Charlotte at the end of the tournament. Of course, I went on in the following week to mention that Duke, North Carolina, Wake Forest, and Louisville were also worthy of winning the crown.

This gave me five picks (out of 64). Not bad when you're hedging, eh? The next thing I did was to say that Purdue would go out early on. I was proven wrong there when the Big Dog kept them around until the Great Eight.

I laughed and poo-pooed Arizona and Missouri, and both of those teams played fine basketball with the Wildcats making it all the way to the Final Four. So I was wrong more times than I was right, but that is the beauty of getting 64 teams to go after one prize.

It was scintillating to the point where I watched every bounce of that NCAA Final between Duke and Arkansas. Brilliant stuff all the way 'til the end...

Staying with the Hogs for a moment, have you ever seen a team that "banked" so many shots from straight out? Many teams hit the angle bankers from the sides of the court, but Arkansas seemed to throw the ball awfully hard off the board when coming right down the lane.

It makes for a larger margin of error when you use that backboard, and the Hogs seemed to use it to their total advantage...

Some of us old fogeys probably got a kick out of an old "Candid Camera" spoof which showed youngsters hitting a baseball into the power alleys and then running down the line. The "funny" people who work behind the scenes at Candid Camera had the bases start travelling all over the field, and the exasperated kids were chasing first base down the right field line and in to the outfield.

It was hysterical! That memory came rushing back to me when I see SHAQ O'NEAL and his new All-Sport commercial which has the backboard moving while he is trying to make a dunk. What will they think of next? Moving goalposts in football? That would bring those field goal percentages down...

I find it mighty interesting that MIKE MILBURY seems to have his pick of the litter when it comes to hockey coaching jobs. He always looked so awkward when he was trying to stand up on his skates, but in retrospect, he always got the job done, too.

He may have been a little more cerebral than a lot of us gave him credit for during his playing days...

SHERM DOUGLAS got 27 points and 22 assists in a recent Celtics game at the Spectrum in Philadelphia. A fantastic game to be sure, but it just got lost in the Lottery Sweepstakes...

DARRYL STRAWBERRY'S Dodger teammates sure didn't pull any punches when they were assessing his absence and the impact that it would have on the team. Baseball is such a great sport that you can lose your "supposed" star and still have just as good a chance as before.

Somebody has to throw it and somebody has to hit it, and they don't make you play with eight guys just because you lost your superstar. No one position (i.e., QB in football, center in basketball) is more important than any other in our National Pastime, and we always learn about new "stars" when injuries and illnesses occur.

However, the Dodgers are not going to beat the Giants, no matter what they do. The Giants are going to the post this season...

BOB JOHNSON is another reason why you turn our pages each and every week. Be sure to keep up with Bob's coverage of AHS sports this spring ... only in the ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

AHS SOFTBALL - from Page 45...

other kids who have won positions (or are competing for positions) have enjoyed a year of experience.

Chris Bousquet has been a two-year starter at second base, but she moves to first base this spring. Becky Wing (a late-season callup from junior varsity last season) will move from third to second. And Stephanie Biza and Melissa Troi are working out at the hot corner.

Courtne Hyland looks to handle the catching chores for the Brownies, with Erica Pratt, Kristen Schmaelzle, Katie Vivenzio, and Kate LaBreck hoping to grab some outfield playing time.

"All these kids can play, all these kids want to play, and they will all contribute by season's end," said Miss Lickley flatly. "We will do this together, and I fully expect us to be successful."

How successful, Deb? Be realistic. "We can

win it all this season. Our pitching is such that our goals should not be lower than that. Cyndi Stone and Lauren Seymour are both veterans who know how to get people out. They have different styles, but both have been very effective in the past and they both look unbelievable inside so far this spring."

Stone (the only senior on the team besides Rapa) is a fireballing kid who stands at six feet, two inches tall and intimidates many hitters. She is just wild enough so that nobody digs in against her, and she should be the ace of the league.

Seymour burst onto the scene two years ago with a no-hitter in her debut. Her style is different in the fact that she is a crafty little hurler who knows how to pull the string once in a while and keep the batters off stride.

These two kids give Miss Lickley plenty of reason to expect a strong season from the mound corps and a great season from a team long on enthusiasm and short on experience.

Check our classified pages every week - AAN!!!




The Agawam Soccer Association will be holding

SIGN-UPS for FALL SOCCER

**April 9, 1994
10:00am - 2:00pm
Agawam Middle School**

These sign-ups are for both

IN-TOWN & PIONEER VALLEY PROGRAMS

(Boys and Girls born between 8/1/77 - 7/31/89)

\$25.00 registration fee per child with a \$60.00 maximum per family

Child's Social Security Number and Date of Birth are Required

NOTE: Co-ed under 17 league will play on Sunday afternoons only!

A.S.A. Soccer Jackets will be on display and available for ordering

Special Request

We are taking applications for a coach of the Girls Under-9 Pioneer Valley Team. If interested, call: Denny Marr at 789-2796

Lost & Found

There were two soccer Jackets and one Coat found last fall. Please inquire at sign-ups

AAN Golf Tip of the Week...**World's Greatest
Share Their Keys To
Mastering The Game****Compiled by Jim Modzelesky, PGS
Oak Ridge Golf Club, Feeding Hills, MA**

Well, the 1994 golf season is now upon us (finally), so it is now time for my weekly golf tip of the week. To try something a little different this season, instead of a physical golf tip of the week, I am going to give you a mental golf tip.

Far too many amateur golfers get that dreaded disease we as golf instructors call paralysis from analysis. Amateurs are always trying something new with their swing. Some swing changes work and some don't, but the fact remains that no matter how successful an amateur may get with his physical swing, the mental thought process will become the main deterrent towards success.

True success can only come from competition (tournaments, etc.), as competition is a great measuring stick towards success. How many times has a golfer with a chance to break 80, 90, or 100 for the first time come to the last hole and all he or she can see is the disaster in their mind to totally ruin their round of golf?

Luck will never, never overcome your negative thoughts. Instead of thinking of a swing break down, or the hazards that lie ahead on the hole, a positive mode must be put into your mind. Many times your muscles will react to your mind set.

Some simple things I think of when I get into nervous situations is to first trust my swing. I say that to myself two or three times. Next, as I swing the club, my key is to make sure my hands and the clubhead bypass my head while keeping my head still. Just those two thoughts have gotten me through some difficult nervous situations.

What I have done for this season of golf tips is to compile a number of swing thoughts from world class golf professionals. Each week I will present to the AAN readers one golf professional's name, certain situation, and their swing thought to give them their best chance for success.

Hopefully, some of these swing thoughts will take your thoughts off of the negatives and let some positive thoughts get you closer to your golf goals. Good luck to all, and have a great 1994 golf season. Look for my first swing thought tip next week.

**Michelle Germano Of
Daggett Gymnastics
Makes Regional Team**

Michelle Germano, 11, of West Springfield and a member of the Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastic Girls' Team, placed second all-around in her age group for Level 9, and first on vault at the Girls' State Gymnastic Championships held on March 27th at Algonquin Regional High School in Northboro, MA.

Michelle scored a 34.3 which placed her sixth out of 75 girls in Level 9, all ages groups, and qualified her for the Regional Team. Regional Championships will be held on April 23rd at Algonquin High School.

Michelle was also the 1993 Level 7 state champion.

**Youth Football Signups
At Leonard House
On Sat., April 9th**

The Agawam Youth Football Association will hold sign-ups for the fall season, Saturday, April 9th, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House, Main Street.

The Agawam Warriors compete in the Junior and Senior Divisions of the Western Mass. Suburban Amateur Football League. To be eligible, players must reside in Agawam.

The Junior Division consists of players in the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades. Sixth graders may not turn 13 on or before December 31st, 1994.

The Senior Division consists of players in the seventh and eighth grades. Eighth graders may not turn 15 on or before December 31st, 1994.

Sign-up fees are \$75 per player, \$100 per family (two players). At the time of equipment handout, players must prepay \$50 for raffle tickets.

*Best local news...***The Municipal Golf Commission Invites
You To Become A Member At****AGAWAM
COUNTRY CLUB****The MEMBERSHIP Schedule
for 1994 is as follows:**

1. **REGULAR** - \$550.00 * - privileges include unlimited play; handicap; preferred weekend tee times and tournament play
(* \$50.00 discount for Agawam residents)
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(* \$50.00 discount for Agawam residents)
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St. Mary Holds On To First Place In Tri-Parish Bowling

St. Mary (18 wins) continues to hold first place in the Monday night Tri-Parish Bowling League at the Agawam Bowl.

St. Mary's met with tough resistance from fourth place Notre Dame (13½ points) in this week's matchup. ND winners included leadoff EVELYN POIRIER (251), third roller GLEN ADAMS (312), and Captain AL MORRISON, who fired a nifty 358. Al leads the entire league in rolling at 120.16. St. Mary's Captain RIC SHEEHAN knew he had a tough night vs. Morrison but still did quite well with a 340 (105.56 in Men's AA, third). The only St. Mary's winner was second roller TERRY HILL, a 261-254 winner over CAROLINE COELLN, Terry is second in Women's B at 90.72, while Evelyn Poirier of ND is fourth in Women's C at 83.5.

St. Louis (2nd place/16½ wins) stayed close to St. Mary's by conquering eighth place Holy Cross (8 points). St. Lou winners were leadoff TINA FRAPPIER (278), MAYBETH "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN (291), and Captain SCOTT MASSOIA (340). Massoia came back from a horrid previous week with his 58 pin destruction of HC Captain LARRY VIENS (282). Massoia leads the Men's A at 106.30, while Viens is fifth in Men's AA at 99.34.

The only winner for HC was third roller DON STITT (294, leader in Men's C at 94.17). "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN is moving way up in Women's A at 92.51, while Tina Frappier leads Women's D in scoring (87.39).

Third place St. Michael (16 points) met last place Georgetown (7 points) in the next match. St. Mike's had two winners - leadoff VENETTA SNYDER (248) and second roller TERRI OUELLETTE (267). But G-Town fought right back with big wins by third roller LARRY FORTIER (308) and Captain DEBBIE POIRIER, who came back from last week's disaster by posting a nifty 336. She completely wiped out St. Mike's distraught captain, TOM "Not Tony" CURTIS (280). Debbie Poirier is the top roller for the women at 103.39 while Larry Fortier is second in Men's C at 90.19.

Venetta Snyder is fourth in Women's B at 89.40 while Terri Ouellette is right behind in Women's B at 88.60.

Fifth place St. Anselm (11 points) faced off against sixth place Catholic U (11 points) and it was a good one. CU winners were leadoff MARY THOMAS (275), second roller BONNIE MASSOIA (302-300 over substitute JOHN REILLY), and Captain JIM SNYDER (337). The only winner for St. A's was third roller STEVE BONESTEEL (292). Jim Snyder is in second place in Men's AA at 106.6, while Mary Thomas is fourth in Women's A at 92.46. Bonnie Massoia is fifth in Women's A at 91.38.

In the final match of the night, seventh place Boston College (9 points) fought ninth place Fordham (8 points) in an effort to leave the cellar to G-Town.

BC only had one winner, leadoff STELLA BARBIERI (291, second in Women's C at 87.0). BC's JOHN LONCRINI and Fordham's FRANK CERPOMICZ tied at 273 each, while substitute BOB COELLN (304) and Captain OLLIE MULDREW (306, first in Men's AA at 108.31) both won for Fordham.

Fishing Tourney To Benefit Southwick's D.A.R.E. Program

The fourth annual "Fish For D.A.R.E." bass tournament will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, on the Congamond Lakes. The tournament is being held to benefit the Southwick Police Department's D.A.R.E. program.

This event will begin at 7:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Registration (cash only!) will be held just prior to the start of the tournament between 5:30 and 6:30 a.m. at the North Ramp (near Louie B's Restaurant). However, participants can pre-register by check until April 9th.

The entry fee is \$50 per team, with 50% payback and 50% donated to D.A.R.E. There is an optional \$10.00 per team "Lunker Pool" with 100% payback.

B.A.S.S. Tournament Rules apply, and an aerated live well is required. This tournament is sponsored by the Northeast Bass Anglers.

To receive further information and/or a pre-registration entry fee, call Al at (413) 569-3193, or Jim at (203) 668-8924.

You turn our pages every week for all the hometown news

Fitness First Raises \$11,000 During Event For Children's Miracle Network

Club owners Kurt and Paula Welker have announced this week that Fitness First was able to raise close to \$11,000 for the Children's Miracle Network at Baystate Medical Center during their fourth annual Aerob-A-Thon and Racquetball Tournament held on March 18th, 19th, and 20th. The pledges collected came from three Aerob-A-Thons, the racquetball tournament entry fees, balloon sales, the giant raffle, court sponsors, and donations.

This annual event drew over 100 of the best racquetball players from the area as well as approximately 85 aerobic participants. There were three actual Aerob-A-Thons. The club's seniors who call themselves "Young At Heart" raised \$800 between two different aquatic classes, and they were joined by the three-hour class in raising \$7,000 towards the grand total.

"It was a fun weekend for a very worthy cause," said co-owner Paula Welker. "We love to do this

every year for the kids at Baystate Medical Center. These children get extra benefits and care thanks to fundraisers like this. Special thanks go to our staff, our members, and local businesses and residents who open their hearts and donate for this very worthy cause. We can't thank them enough."

Fitness First would like to thank the businesses that helped surpass its fundraising goal this year; Fran Johnson's Nevada Bob's, Longmeadow's Cycle Fitness, Westfield Taylor Rental, and Rock 102 FM were the major sponsors.

Many businesses participated in the raffle court sponsorships. Special thanks go to member Jen Berquist and aerobic instructor Lisa Garde who raised the most money from the club.

If you would like to contribute to the Children's Miracle Network fund, Fitness First is still accepting donations. Call 786-1460.

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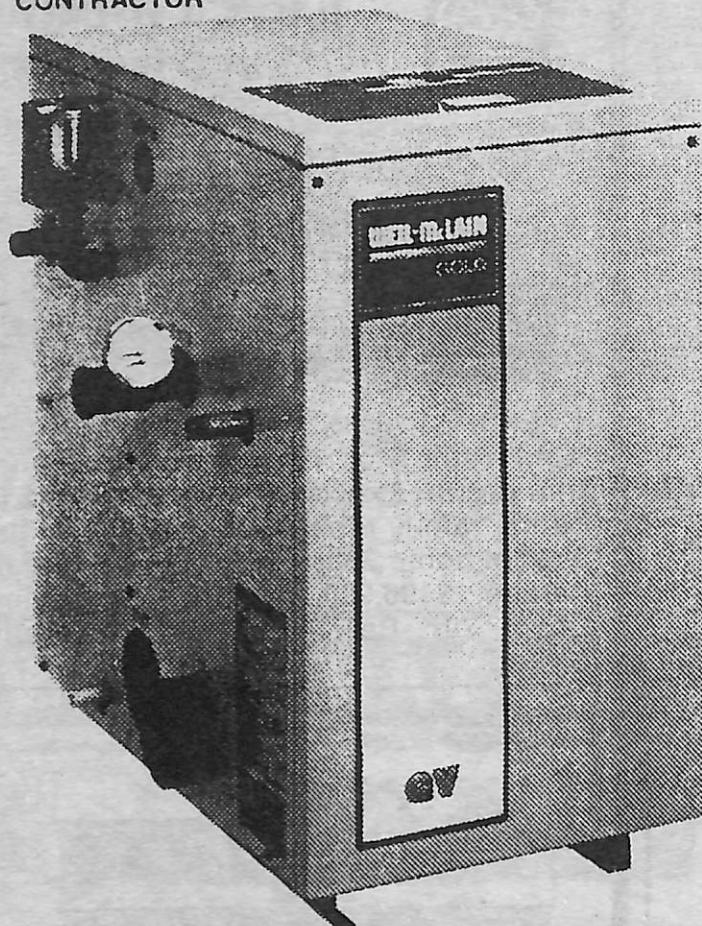
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Multiple Sclerosis Soc. To Hold Benefit Walks In Massachusetts

Put your best foot forward by walking 15 miles in the Springfield Multiple Sclerosis Walk on April 10th, and you will be helping to find a cure for the number one disabling disease of young adults.

During the weekend of April 9th and 10th, the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society will hold 16 MS Walks across the state. At the same time, in cities and towns across the country, more than 300,000 Americans are expected to participate in the National MS Society campaign. The Springfield Walk will begin on Sunday, April 10th, at Williams Middle School in Longmeadow at 10:00 a.m., and will wind through the Longmeadow and Springfield Forest Park area.

Eileen Curran, WGGB-TV, Channel 40's morning anchor and the Honorary Chairman of the Springfield MS Walk, commented, "The MS Walk Weekend is the MS Society's biggest fundraising event of the year, and it has become a huge success because people are so willing to reach out to help their neighbors with MS. As usual, I'll help lead-off Springfield's MS Walk on Sunday, April 10th. We're hoping that the recent breakthroughs in MS research will encourage even more walkers to join us this year to help raise funds and have a great day for an excellent cause."

MS is a chronic, often disabling disease that attacks a person's nervous system. The progress, severity, and specific symptoms of the disease cannot be foreseen; symptoms may range from numbness to paralysis and blindness. Most people are diagnosed with MS between the ages of 20 and 40, but the unpredictable physical and emotional effects can occur for the rest of their lives. The MS Society provides a wide range of vital support services to help families affected by MS live with a chronic disease and cope with the stress of an unknown future.

"Funds raised by walkers support the services we provide to thousands of local families, as well as cutting-edge research we conduct on a national basis, which will someday lead to a cure for MS," said James Dunlop, Chairman of the Board of the Massachusetts Chapter. He added, "Just a few months ago, the first drug in 25 years to treat the course of MS came on the market. It's a major breakthrough, and we can continue to make strides only with the public's support."

During the weekend of April 9th and 10th, 16 MS Walks will take place in the following towns: Boston, Marblehead, Hopkinton, Hyannis, Attleboro, Plymouth, Westport, Greenfield, Northampton, Worcester, Haverhill, Concord, Cohasset, Longmeadow/Springfield, Southbridge, and Pittsfield.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is dedicated to advancing the cure, prevention, and treatment of MS and to improving the lives of those affected by the disease. Since the MS Society was founded in 1946, it has spent over \$150 million for research—the largest sum allocated for MS research anywhere in the world, outside the U.S. federal government. Through its 144 chapters and branches, the Society provides services for people with MS across the nation.

To join the fast-growing, fun-filled MS Walks, or to sponsor walkers or volunteer to help, contact Nancy at the Massachusetts Chapter at (413) 731-5362. You can also pick up a brochure at your local Big Y Supermarket.

Please remember that Birthday card ads are \$25 with picture. Thanks.

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Despite Cold Conditions, Greger Shines At Riverside

On Saturday, April 2nd, Riverside Park Speedway hosted event number two in the NASCAR Winston Racing Series. And, even though the temperature was in the 20's, it was **Stan Greger** who warmed things up in the Budweiser 50-lap Modified Tour Type feature.

A crowd of 4,185 came out in the bitter cold as Greger (driving for Bob Judkins/Manafort Constructions) led from green to checker. Still, it wasn't an easy victory, as up until the halfway mark, John Anderson tried everything to get around Greger.

And, while that was going on, Reggie Ruggiero was coming from the middle of the pack. Other strong challenges were applied by Dan Avery, Marty Radewick, and Richard Savary. Chris Kopec, the first week's winner, also looked strong enough to win his second race.

Then, on lap 42 of the second turn, Anderson, Kopec, and Radewick became the victims of circumstance; Anderson was unable to return, but with points on his mind, Kopec would return. On the restart, Greger was hunted down in a single-file restart to the checker. Rich Savary, who had a great run for third, dropped out with mechanical problems. The new battle was one for not only the lead, but for the remaining top 10 spots (thanks to the efforts of Ed Spiers, Wade Cole, and Tom Jensen).

When the checker came out, it was Stan Greger for his first win in 1994 in the Manafort No. 2X. Second was Reggie Ruggiero (John Haymond Law), followed by Dan Avery (Porter Chester), Ed Spiers (sponsor wanted), and Wade Cole (Charley's Radiator) to round out the top five.

Sixth through 10th were Tom Jensen, Doug

Meservey, Tom Cravenho, Jake Marosz, and Marty Radewick.

Lou Prior won in the Pro Stocks. Prior was pressured lap after lap as the defending champion Dave Carusso gave him a great run for his money. Other factors in this memorable race were Eddy Carroll and Ed Carroll.

As the checker was about to come out, a caution in turn four of the final circuit made this 30-lap feature a wild one. Still, the finish was close as Lou Prior won the event.

Second was Dave Carusso, third was Eddy Carroll, fourth was Ed Carroll, and fifth was Dave Berube. Rounding out the top 10 were John Lobo, Jr., Bill Lauridsen, Tom Carey, Barry Grey, and Sumner Chapman.

In the Strictly Stocks, the action was just as good as last week's race. And, this event featured a repeat winner—**Rob Valerio**.

Vinny Buonocore was second followed by Chuck Alessio, Todd Owen, and Larry Bouchard. Sixth through 10th were Ken Marques, Herb Carlon, Roy Houle, Al Leone, and Jay Miller.

This Saturday, April 9th, the third event for Riverside's 1994 season will be another "Super Saver" Family Value Night with the NASCAR Tour Type Modifieds, Late Models, and Strictly Stocks.

Action gets under way at 6:00 p.m. Adults are just \$9.99, and kids 12 and under are \$2.99. That means an average family of four (based on two adults and two children under 12 years of age) can attend for under \$26.

For more information, call (413) 786-9300, ext. 3264.

PLEASE REMEMBER that our deadline is every Tuesday at noontime. We do appreciate those who bring in their copy either on Friday or Monday. Please remember to publicize your event at least one week in advance. Thanks.



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Having Fun At The Buccaneer Restaurant



THE KITCHEN CREW: Front row - Donny Hanna, Jr., Joe Rossi, and Mike Fila. Back row - Jim Breton and Mark Rolandini.



IN TOP PHOTO, Chet Szymczyk, Sam Provo, Hank Daglio, and Brendon Cloran are getting ready for seconds at the annual wild game meal that was recently held at the Buccaneer Restaurant. **IN BOTTOM PHOTO,** Mark Rolandini, Helen Marganti, and Cathy Fila worked the serving line to make sure that no one went hungry.

Sportsmen's Corner

—By Bill Chiba—
1003 No. Westfield St.
F.H., MA 01030



As usual, the annual wild game meal held at the Buccaneer Restaurant by Frank and Mike Fila was a huge success. The menu consisted of wild boar donated by Mark Rolandini, who took it with his bow, wild turkey bagged by Frank Fila, salmon and trout by the Filas, bow-killed deer by Don and Mike Sprandel, polenta stirred by hand by the Polenta King, Sam Provo, and wild mushrooms and venison sausage topped off the entree.

The kitchen crew, headed by Joe Rossi and his assistant, John Breton, handled their chores with expertise. Mark Rolandini, Mike Fila, and Donny Hanna, Jr., labored in the kitchen with the two bosses.

The serving line was lightened up with two beautiful additions, Helen Marganti and Cathy Fila, Mike's wife.

There was nothing but praise from the crowd that ate their fill and went back for seconds.

I have a little catching up on the latest happenings, considering that the fishing season is here in April. A stint in the hospital that resulted in a pacemaker being installed in my chest so that I can carry on as before, caused this situation.

The stocking of trout is underway and the Division will be stocking a total of 750,000 this spring. Breaking down to districts, it adds up as thus: Northeast—156,300; Southeast—143,200; Central—153,000; Connecticut Valley—135,000; and Western—162,000.

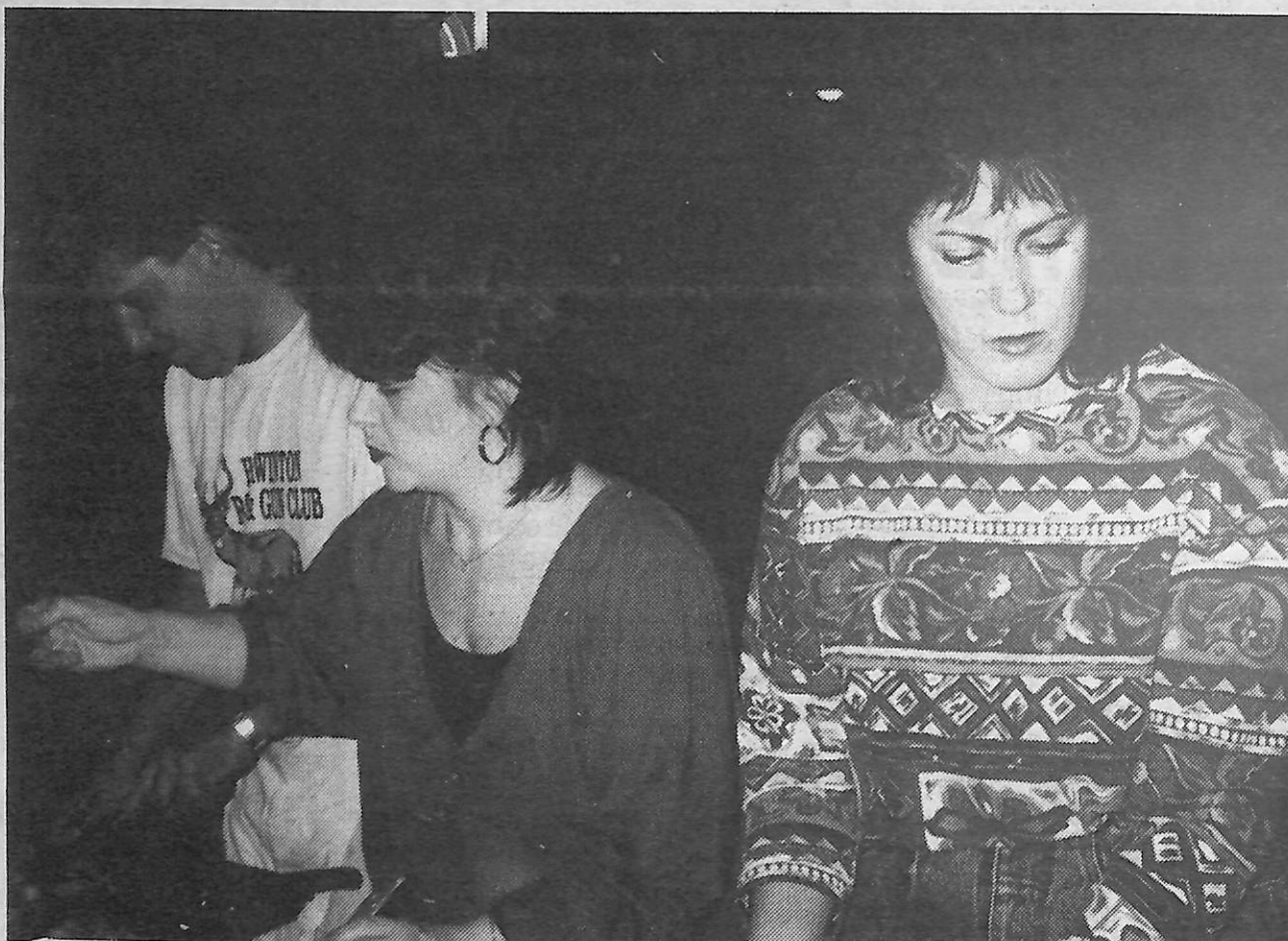
The majority of trout being released are 12-inches plus, and weigh close to a pound. Stocking has already begun through the ice and will intensify as waters open up.

For a complete stocking list, send a self-addressed envelope to: Stocking List, Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Westboro, MA 01581.

An East Falmouth angler set a new record for rainbow trout by landing a 13 pound, five ounce rainbow while fishing John's Pond in Maspee in March 1993.

Clem Mello was using spinning gear and a live night crawler on March 28th. The fish also sported a girth of 19½ inches, making it a very healthy looking fish.

Best
Local
News...
AAN!!!



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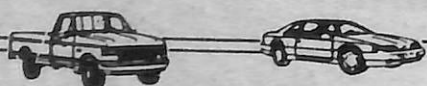


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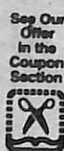
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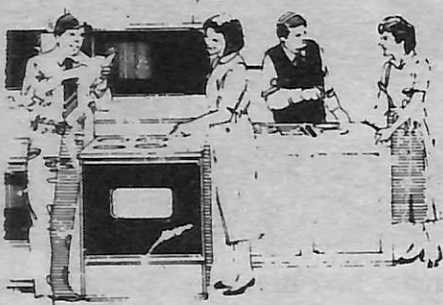
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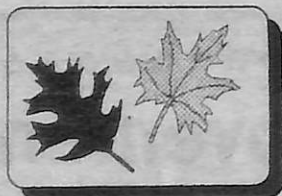
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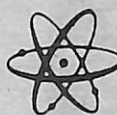
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